FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MARCH 1986

Libya

Commenting on the U.S. decision to terminate the 6th Fleet's exercises off the Libyan coast, Tripoli television noted JANA's political editor's view that U.S. officials were "compelled" to withdraw the 6th Fleet because Libya's "firmness" and "brave defiance" had led to an "acute military confrontation which the Americans did not take into account." The political editor also maintained that support for Libya throughout the world had a "decisive effect" in forcing the cancellation of the U.S. exercises. Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio likewise spoke of a "glittering victory" in the Gulf of Sidra, claiming that the Libyans were able to "match" the United States, "which they fought and triumphed over."

The radio again exhorted the Arab masses to destroy U.S. interests and targets in the Arab world, adding that no American in the region is an innocent visitor or a person without a "spying or sabotage mission." The radio also broadcast a support message to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi from the Tunisian "revolutionary force," which declared its readiness to form "suicide squads."

As for Libyan losses in the U.S. attacks, TANJUG cited an eyewitness account that at least 8 Libyans were killed when their missile boat was hit, while JANA noted a Spanish press report that 16 Libyan sailors were rescued by a Spanish oil tanker.

Lebanon

A Lebanese Forces Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio accused the Syrian Army of participating in recent artillery attacks on Christian areas, causing "dozens" of casualties. The committee linked this military escalation with the series of car-bomb explosions in Christian districts. The statement reaffirmed the Lebanese Forces' willingness to take part in a cease-fire and urged Arab states to act quickly to stop Syrian military activity in Lebanon. The Lebanese Forces' accusations followed further shelling across combat lines in the Al-Matn area, according to Beirut radio.

In Israel's security zone, an army of southern Lebanon soldier was killed by a roadside bomb 28 March, Jerusalem radio reported. A PLO spokesman announced earlier that 10 people were killed and 12 were injured in the 27 March Israeli air raid on Fatah targets near Sidon, Radio Monte Carlo noted. Fatah claimed responsibility for the katyusha attack on Qiryat Shemona that morning, according to AFP.

For Israel's part, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated that the air raid was part of Israel's campaign to prevent incidents like the attack on Qiryat Shemona, IDF radio reported. Commenting on the raid, Jerusalem radio said that nearly 1,000 "terrorists" from various Palestinian organizations have returned to the Sidon area.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian air defenses shot down three Iraqi MIG-23's when Iraqi aircraft attacked a "huge" Iranian naval convoy crossing the Gulf 27 March, Iran announced in a war report broadcast by Tehran television. Although the report maintained that the convoy arrived safely at its destination on the Al-Faw peninsula, an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio maintained that Iraqi planes "wiped out" the convoy, which consisted of seven large supply ships escorted by nine other boats. The Iraqi communique also announced Iraqi air raids on the Ganaveh oil terminal and on three Iranian military camps.

In another communique broadcast by the radio, the Iraqi command claimed successes on the northern front, asserting that Iraqi troops recaptured 14 "strategic" mountain peaks from the Iranians in a "stormy, sweeping attack" 27-28 March.

Israel-Egypt: Taba Talks

No progress was made in the latest round of Taba talks as the Egyptians went back on a previous agreement and hardened their position, Jerusalem radio reported. Nevertheless, Israeli delegation leader Avraham Tamir stressed that the situation is not critical, asserting that it "should not be regarded as a catastrophe" if the dispute is referred to the Inner Cabinet following the next round of talks in Cairo, according to *HA'ARETZ*.

Algerian-Soviet Relations

Reporting on Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid's talks with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, Algiers radio noted that the two sides signed a long-term program for economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation, adding that they also expressed satisfaction with the "excellent" state of bilateral relations. In related remarks broadcast by the radio, the Algerian foreign minister disclosed that military issues were discussed in the talks on bilateral relations.

The Qatari paper *AL-RAYAH* reported earlier that Algeria is seeking to strengthen its air defenses by purchasing modern Soviet SAM's as well as a sophisticated French radar system, according to QNA.

PLO-Jordan

Jordanian authorities have denied a report by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA' that Jordan has asked the PLO to close its main* offices in Amman, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir disclosed in a statement cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Al-Wazir said Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has assured him that the *AL-ANBA'* story was unfounded.

Pakistan-DRA

The Soviet Union has given "very positive signs" of readiness to negotiate a troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq stated in a *LE MONDE* interview cited by AFP. Meanwhile, a bomb explosion in a Peshawar refugee hostel killed or wounded 21 people, according to AFP, which noted that Pakistani police believe DRA secret agents were responsible. In another development, the Pakistani Foreign Office protested to the DRA over recent cross-border artillery fire which injured nine people, Karachi radio noted.

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Palestinian Front Condemns U.S. 'Aggression'

JN271412 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] In Damascus, the Palestinian Popular struggle Front has condemned the sinful aggression against Libya and called on all Arab states to shoulder their national pan-Arab responsibilities and to boycott U.S. imperialism, which constitutes a center for tension that might ignite a comprehensive war in the region and threatens the security of the Mediterranean basin states.

Additional on Arab League Council Tunis Session

Council Discusses Others' Israeli Ties

LD271339 Rabat MAP in English 1235 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, March 27 (IPS-MAP) — The Political Committee of the Arab League Council meeting here took up the question of the league's response to several nations which recently opened diplomatic ties with Israel.

In a session late Tuesday [25 March] the council considered Spain's, the Ivory Coast's and Sri Lanka's ties to Israel, among other issues.

The resolution on Spain, which established diplomatic relations with Israel Jan. 17, recommends that Arab governments "should undertake bilateral contacts to push Spain to cut back its relations with Israel in the political, economic and cultural fields".

The committee recommended the Arab League general secretariat prepare a report on "future developments in the Spanish stand towards issues and particularly the Palestinian" issue.

Last week Spain announced it would grant diplomatic status to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representatives in Madrid.

The committee, however, did not take up a proposal to reduce the level of diplomatic representation between Arab states and Spain and to put an end to new Arab investments there, Arab League sources told IPS.

The committee's resolutin about the Ivory Coast's decision to re-establish diplomatic ties with Israel said the issue will be conveyed to the joint Arab-African ministerial conference due to be held later this year.

The council also said that the Ivory Coast's decision was a "retraction" from commitments laid out in the first Arab-African summit held in Cairo in March 1977.

The resolution lauded the decision adopted by the recent ministerial council of the Organisation of African Unity "reiterating the pledge of African countries not to establish or resume diplomatic relations with Israel "and its "natural and absolute partner" South Africa.

Six African countries have resumed diplomatic ties with Israel since the African decision to boycott it in the wake of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. These are: Botswana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malawi, Rwanda and Zaire.

The committee also stressed the need to reactivate Arab-European dialogue, but refused a proposal to increase the representation in the Arab-European dialogue commission to a ministerial level, the same sources said.

The budget deficit of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) was also discussed in the committee's meetng.

Arab countries were asked to increase their contributions in the agncy to reduce its deficit but stressed that the whole international community bears responsibility for the Palestinian refugees.

The Arab League Council also adopted two resolutions strongly condemning the United States and Iran over their "military agressions" against Libya and Iraq respectively. The council is due to conclude its session this Thursday.

Klibi Asked To Set Up Arab Summit

LD271349 Rabat MAP in English 1240 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tunis, March 27 (MAP) — The Arab League ministerial council mandated the league's Secretary General Chadli Klibi with conducting the necessary contacts for the holding of an Arab summit, sources close to the council reported on Wednesday [26 March].

The decision was made at the request of Kuwait during a limited meeting held in the Tunisian capital Monday evening in parallel to the 85th session of the league's council.

During this meeting that was attended by the foreign ministers of Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Tunisia, Kuwait also called for the implementation of the Arab defense pact against Iran.

The ministerial council has thus entrusted Chadli Klibi with getting in touch with all Arab heads of state and setting the venue of this summit "the only way to find solutions to the problems confronting the Arab world", the same sources specified.

Relatedly, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faisal said that Saudi Arabia does not object to the holding of an Arab summit if it is to examine precise items and if there is an Arab "consensus" on the convening of such a summit.

In a statement he made Wednesday before leaving Tunis where he partook in the Arab League's council, Prince Al-Faisal stressed the necessity to thouroughly prepare for this conference so that it succeeds "not at 80 percent but at 100 percent to materialize inter-Arab solidarity and define a joint Arab stance as was the case during the Fes summit".

Council Ends Session

LD280350 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Arab League Council ended its work in Tunisia today. An official spokesman for the General Secretariat of the Arab League said that this session had acquired a special importance in view of the nature of the issues on its agenda and the seriousness of the developments in the Arab arena since the last session.

While the council reviewed these issues and developments, it discussed the serious developments in the war between Iraq and Iran as a result of the large-scale Iranian attack against Iraq that has led to the occupation of more Arab land. In this context, the council confirmed the solidarity of the Arab states with Iraq in the legitimate defense of its land and pointed to the dangers this attack poses to security and stability in the Arab Gulf region and to international peace and security in general. It renewed its call on Iran to negotiate and respond to international resolutions and initiatives.

The council considered the latest U.S. aggression against Libya and strongly condemned it, expressing its complete solidarity with the Libyan people. It also called on the United States to immediately halt its aggression and all military operations against Libya. The council decided to remain in permanent session and asked the Arab League secretary general to present a report on any important developments so that the necessary steps can be taken. The council discussed the latest events in southern lebanon as a result of the continuation of the Israeli occupation and the escalation of its terrorist aggressions. It also reviewed developments in the Palestinian arena, all of which showed the Israeli insistence on blocking all peace efforts and the affirmation of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. The council denounced the invasion of the Al-Aqsa Mosque courtyard by members of the Israeli Knesset and praised the struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland.

In a speech at the end of the session, Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, confirmed that the 85th session was extremely important because of the attendance of a large number of ministers who had shown great interest in the work of this session. He pointed out that although those efforts bore no fruit in relation to some of the issues which were deliberated, they mark positive efforts which brought about the consolidation of joint Arab action.

Qaddumi Says Spain's PLO Decision 'Misleading'

JN271952 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO political department, has said that during his recent visit to Tunis, the Spanish foreign minister tried to sell the Arabs hollow talk about giving the PLO office in Madrid diplomatic status. In response to a question by KUNA the day before yesterday on his opinion of what the Spanish foreign minister said regarding his government's decision to give the PLO office in Madrid diplomatic status and the privileges stipulated by international law in this regard, Brother Abu al-Lutf said: I regret to say that the Spanish foreign minster's statement is greatly misleading and an attempt to sell the Arabs hollow talk. This is because in the days of the late Spanish President Franco, the PLO enjoyed the privileges of an embassy.

Official Denies PLO Offices in Jordan To Close

JN271849 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] In Amman, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has stated that he had received reassurances from the Jordanian Government that not one of the PLO offices will be closed as the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA'* reported today.

In a statement to REUTER, Abu Jihad said that he sought clarifications from the Jordanian Government about the truth of the *AL-ANBA'* report, and that Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i told him that the report was unfounded. An authoritative Jordanian source also said that the report is not true.

AL-ANBA' reported today that King Husayn asked PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to close the main PLO offices in Amman before the end of March and that he had also decided to expel 100 PLO members who are working in Jordan.

Differences Between 'Arafat, Fatah Envoy Reported

GF271525 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Mar 86 pp 1, 20

["Exclusive" report from Amman]

[Text] Differences have exacerbated between Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and 'Atallah 'Atallah, alias Abu al-Za'im, Fatah representative in Jordan. This exacerbation was a result of Abu al-Za'im's moves on the Jordanian arena, which Yasir 'Arafat believes are aimed at setting up a leadership alternative to the PLO, with the Jordanian authorities' encouragement.

AL-BAYAN has learned 'Arafat asked Abu al-Za'im to leave Jordan for Tunisia, and he warned him that if he refuses to leave 'Arafat would dismiss him from Fatah and would announce the dismissal in the media.

Fatah sources have said that 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO representative to Jordan, conveyed this warning 2 days ago to Abu al-Za'im, who rejected a similar order early this month. The sources said that Abu al-Za'im, a former Jordanian army officer who joined Fatah following events in September 1970, intends to make a number of visits to Palestinian camps in Jordan to meet with their dignitaries to instigate them against Yasir 'Arafat and his deputy Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, who is currently in Jordan. The sources added that Abu al-Za'im, who has been able to win the support of a large sector of the al-Karamah forces in Fatah, demands the dismissal of two of 'Arafat's supporters: Al-Hajj Mutlaq, who is in charge of Fatah recruitment, and Fu'ad al-Shubaki, official in charge of the movement's financial department.

It should be noted that during his last visit to Jordan, 'Arafat appointed Abu al-Za'im, former leader of Palestinian military intelligence, as Fatah representative to Jordan, succeeding Hani al-Hasan, who was dismissed after the working committee loyal to him was dissolved.

'Arafat Discusses Jordanian Links, UN Resolutions

Hopeful on Jordanian Dialogue

NC272235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has expressed hope that Egyptian and Arab efforts to get the dialogue between Jordan and the Palestinians moving again will succeed, and will not be hindered by American or Israeli obstacles.

In a statement broadcast by London radio this evening, 'Arafat denied that there is anything standing in the way of a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. However, he referred to America's intransigent position on the PLO, and said that this problem is one between his group and the United States.

'Arafat added that the content of the three formulas sent to the United States is — except for a few amendments — identical to that mentioned by King Husayn on 29 May. He noted that these amendments concern PLO willingness to take part in an international conference attended by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the basis of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, particularly that of self-determination; the Jordanian-Palestinian accord; and all UN resolutions, as opposed to 242 and 338 alone.

'Arafat touched on PLO relations with Syria in his statement. He noted that the PLO decided to turn over a new leaf with Damascus at the 7 January meeting of Palestinian leaders in Baghdad. He added that the conferees decided not to respond to any unilateral media campaigns. However, these actions did not have the desired results.

'Arafat explained that the PLO will continue this policy for the sake of Arab fraternity, and to meet the challenges that the PLO faces from Israel.

Affirms Support For UN Resolutions

JN271940 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed the PLO's willingness to recognize Security Council Resolution 242 if the five permanent members of the Security Council guarantee the Palestinian people's right to self-determination within the legitimate rights approved for them by the international authorities.

Regarding Palestinian-Jordanian relations, Brother Abu 'Ammar affirmed, in a statement to the Egyptian *AL-JUMHURIYAH* newspaper published the day before yesterday, the PLO's eagerness to maintain the relationship wioh Jordan. He said: Our dispute with the United States must lead to a dispute with the brothers in Jordan. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar described Palestinian-Jordanian relations as strategic.

Khalaf Expresses PLO Gratitude for Arab Aid

PM271633 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 3

[Report on interview with Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Fatah Central Committee member, by *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Gulf Bureau; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), Fatah Central Committee member, expressed the PLO's thanks to Saudi monarch King Fahd 'Abd al-'Aziz and to his government for the support they give to the Palestinian people and their legitimate leadership, the PLO.

He said that most Arab countries had stopped their aid to the PLO since 1982 with the exception of the Saudi Kingdom, which continued to give aid to the inhabitants of the occupied territories and to the PLO and to honor its financial obligations.

In a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Abu Iyad said that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan this month resumed paying the UAE's obligations to the PLO and had ordered part of the outstanding obligations to be settled. He said that Iraq, despite its war with Iran, had paid a large portion of last year's obligations. No countries other than these have paid their obligations.

Khalaf stressed the need to maintain contacts between the Arab countries and Egypt to discuss ways for its return to the Arab world and the Arab world's return to Egypt. Through such contacts, he added, details of what Egypt needs for this return can be discussed. This includes discussing the Camp David agreements, their effect on the restoration of Egypt's relations with the Arabs, and the way Egypt can get rid of these agreements without causing a national disaster for Egypt and the Arab world.

He said: "We attach great hopes to President Mubarak's patriotic and nationalist stands in seeking to hold such meetings in the interest of Egypt and the whole Arab world."

Asked about the PLO's next step following Jordan's suspension of coordination with it and in the absence of Arab solidarity, Abu Iyad said: "Our plan is to continue armed struggle until the Arab nation rids itself of its internal strife and conflicts. We are also seeking to strengthen Palestinian national unity with all means possible. We will also strive for the resumption of normal relations with Syria and Jordan within the framework of the Arab summit resolutions on wich all the Arabs have agreed."

PLO Committee Member Lauds Kuwaiti Support

LD262243 Kuwait KUNA in English 1545 GMT 24 Mar 86

[By Uthman al-Dayel]

[Text] Riyadh, March 24 (KUNA) — Member of the PLO Executive Committee Muhammad Milhim lauded the stance of his highness the amir of Kuwait and his support to the steadfastness in the occupied territories and his pledge that Kuwait's share in backing the steadfastness will be paid, particularly in light of the disasterous situation the Palestinian universities are passing through. [sentence as received]

In an interview with Kuwait news agency, Milhim who is the director of the Occupied Homeland Department at the PLO and the deposed mayor of Halhul, in the occupied West Bank, said the stance conveyed by his highness the amir at a meeting with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat two months ago has been welcomed by the Palestinian people and the students and teachers in the occupied territories.

Milhim was speaking about the crisis the higher education in the occupied territories is passing through due to the budget deficits that threaten to close the universities there.

Milhim, who is attending the eighth general conference of the Arab Cities Organization (ACO), warned that Israel is insisting to liquidate the Palestinian representatives whether in the Palestinian municipalities or other institutions, hoping to pick an alternative to the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The Israeli scheme has been foiled by the position declared by former Mayor of Nablus, Zafir al-Masri who was assassinated last month, and the stands of other Palestinian figures in the occupied territories which rejected an alternative to the PLO, Milhim said.

He added that he has called in his speech delivered at the ACO conference for giving the Palestinian people the right to elect their municipal councils.

Milhim called for re-evaluating the relations between Arab cities and the Palestinian cities in the occupied territories.

Those cities are being subjected to liquidation of their municipal councils, sacking of mayors and appointing Israeli officers for the jobs with the aim of implementing the Israeli plan to settle inside the Palestinian cities, Milhim said.

He pointed out that the Palestinians are facing the threat of being evacuated from (?their lands) [words indistinct] rural councils are suffering from the [word indistinct] of Arab subsidy.

Mulhim lauded the idea of (?twining) Palestinian and Arab cities which was adopted seven years ago by the organization with the aim of bolstering steadfastness of the cities under occupation.

He predicted that Israel, after its attempts to set up an alternative to the PLO have been foiled, will escalate its atrocious practices against the Palestinians under occupation.

He concluded by calling for an Arab meeting and for unifying efforts because he said Israel is preparing for a new confrontation that ranges from military strikes to pressure with different means to realize its expansionist goals.

PLO Reports Israeli Raid on Fatah Camps in Lebanon

JN271818 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Zionist enemy warplanes this morning launched an aggressive, ugly raid against several Palestinian positions in the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp southeast of Sidon in southern Lebanon. According to initial accounts, the criminal Zionist raid led to the martyrdom and wounding of nearly 20 Palestinian citizens. Reports from southern Lebanon said that the Zionist warplanes bombed in three stages positions belonging to the Palestinian resistance inside and on the outskirts of Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, especially in Tallat Sirob.

This afternoon, the enemy radio admitted that the Zionist warplanes had raided the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp. It said that the raid was aimed against a Fatah movement camp and another training camp.

Successful Operations Reported Inside Israel

Club 'Frequented' by Enemy Agents

JN271936 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following: Our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to escalate their armed operations against the enemy's vital and military installations throughout our occupied Palestinian land. The following are the details of these operations:

1. Our heroes from the martyr Isma'il Darwish group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant timed, incendiary charges inside the Cosmos Club in the Nahalat quarter of occupied Jerusalem which is frequented by members of the enemy intelligence. The charges exploded at 0200 on 27 March 1986 when the club was crowded with enemy personnel. A fire ensued which destroyed everything in the club, and an unknown number of enemy personnel were injured. The enemy's fire brigade, which was rushed to the club, failed to prevent the fire from spreading to neighboring buildings, which sustained grave material damage.

2. After overcoming all the enemy precautionary measures, our heroes from the Arbor Day martyrs group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant timed, explosive charges inside a Zionist interrogation center in the (Qiryat Qab) settlement north of Tel Aviv. Our heroes later withdrew to carry out their fighting mission.

At 0220 on 27 March 1986, the charges exploded, destroying everything in the center and causing a huge fire which spread to the upper parts of the building. The material damage was very extensive.

3. Our heroes continued to carry out their operations against the enemy's vital and military targets. This morning, a special group from the martyr hero Kamal Nasir group managed to plant timed, explosive charges inside a bus station used for transporting Zionist soldiers at the Nahshun crossroads near Tel Aviv. The charges exploded at 0200 this morning, wounding three enemy soldiers and completely destroying the station. Immediately afterward, the enemy forces cordoned off the area, searched the area for other charges, and arrested scores of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being involved in the operation. Our revolutionaries returned safely to base.

4. Our heroes operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to escalate their heroic operations against the enemy's vital and military targets, especially inside the so-called green line, to refute all the enemy's previous claims of recently discovering numerous Fatah cells and to confirm the failure of all the enemy security measures inside the occupied homeland. Yesterday, 26 March 1986, a massive explosion shook the industrial estate in Petah Tiqva as a result of the charges planted by the martyr 'Ali al-Zaybaq group. The explosion set fire to numerous factories and depots inside the area. The Zionist firemen's efforts to contain the fires failed. The fires destroyed several factories and depots. The enemy's financial losses are estimated at several millions of dollars, as well as losses among the Zionist firemen.

5. Our revolutionaries from the martyr Lina al-Nabulsi group operating inside the occupied homeland launched an incendiary bomb attack the day before yesterday against an enemy military vehicle as it passed near the Balatah refugee camp near Nabulus. One the bombs exploded inside the vehicle, burning it and wounding its driver. Immediately afterward, the Zionist enemy soldiers and border guards besieged the refugee camp and carried out an extensive search which lasted until the early hours of the morning. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestininan revolution forces general command.

Settlement, Military Positions Shelled

JN271843 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian-national Lebanese joint forces fired Katyusha rockets at the Zionist Qiryat Shemona settlement in northern occupied Palestine this morning. The rockets scored accurate hits and caused a huge fire inside the settlement, killing or wounding a large number of Zionist soldiers and settlers.

The joint forces also used Katyusha rockets and heavy mortars to shell a number of joint military positions of the Zionist enemy and the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in Al-'Ayshiyah, north of Marj 'Uyun in southern Lebanon this morning. The positions sustained grave material damage, a large number of Zionist soldiers and agent elements were killed or wounded, and a number of military vehicles were either destroyed or damaged.

The joint forces detonated a number of remote-controlled, explosive charges yesterday under a Zionist military patrol as it passed on the Jisr al-Khardali-Dayr Mimat road in southern Lebanon. Two Zionist intelligence vehicles were destroyed and a large number of Zionist enemy personnel were either killed or wounded. The joint forces also used machineguns and rockets to attack a military position yesterday belonging to the militias of the so-called Army of Southern Lebanon in Bayt Yahum in southern Lebanon. The position sustained grave damage, and a large number of agent elements were either killed or wounded. The joint forces attacked a military patrol yesterday belonging to Antoine Lahd's agent militias on the Marj 'Uyun road. They clashed with the patrol with machineguns and rockets. A military jeep was destroyed and another was damaged, and a number of agent elements were either killed or wounded.

Bomb Detonated Near Tel Aviv

GF271903 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Our Palestinian revolutionaries inside the occupied homeland have continued their heroic operations against Zionist targets and installations. They detonated an explosive charge at a waiting station for the enemy soldiers in occupied Jerusalem. The Zionist enemy radio admitted the explosion this morning in Nahsun area between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in occupied Palestine. As usual, the radio did not mention losses but said that the Zionist forces surrounded the area and began a search operation for other explosive charges in the area.

Israeli, Lahd Positions Attacked

JN262108 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The men of the Palestinian-nationalist Lebanese joint forces launched a Katyusha rocket attack against a Zionist military psoition near Al-Hamra' bridge in the occupied border strip yesterday. The missiles hit their targets accurately and directly, destroying a Zionist armored vehicle, starting a huge fire in the position, and either killing or wounding a number of Zionist enemy soldiers.

The joint forces also used their Katyusha rockets and heavy mortars to shell a military position belonging to the agent Antoine Lahd militias affiliated with the Zionist enemy near 'Ayn Ibil in southern Lebanon. The position was severely damaged and a number of agent soldiers were either killed or wounded.

The joint forces also attacked a military position belonging to the agent militias in Bayt Yahun in southern Lebanon yesterday. The attack, in which machineguns and rockets were used, severely damaged the position, destroyed a jeep, and killed or wounded a number of agent personnel.

KUWAIT

Minister Returns From Tunis Arab League Talks

LD271657 Kuwait KUNA in English 1730 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 26 (KUNA) — Kuwait's deputy premier, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad returned here from Tunis tonight after attending a session for the Arab League Ministerial Council.

Sheikh Sabah told reporters at the airport the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the threats it poses to the security and stability of the region dominated discussions of the Arab League Council session.

He recalled that the council had condemned the last month Iranian aggression against Iraq and Iranian threats against other Arab Gulf countries.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat, who called for an urgent Arab summit two days ago, said the council recommended that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi make contacts with the Arab states to set the state for the proposed summit.

The League's ministerial council which went into session last Monday will resume its meetings at the level of permanent delegates to the Arab League to reach final resolutions he added.

Sheikh Sabah noted that the Arab foreign ministers or their representatives have spelled out whole-hearted support for Libya in the face of the U.S. aggression.

He remarked that the ministerial session was held "amidst very delecate circumstances which mark a serious turning point in the joint Arab action."

In a statement before leaving for Tunis last Sunday Sheikh Sabah spoke bitterly of the state of disarray in the Arab world.

He added in his today's statement that Arab foreign ministers who met in Tunis also discussed how a measure of Arab solidarity could be attained.

Security Measures Not To Infringe on Citizens

GF271234 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] Kuwait's Interior Minister, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad, was quoted yesterday as saying measures adopted to counter the expansion of organized terrorism would in no way infringe on the personal freedom of citizens and expatriates.

Shaykh Nawwaf told *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* newspaper that liberties are protected by the power of the Constitution and cannot be violated.

He said that the security authorities would protect these liberties in accordance with law.

The interior minister said that Kuwait was cooperating with other countries in combatting terrorism, and has been providing special training for security personnel in cooperation with Arab countries.

Shaykh Nawwaf noted that restrictions on visitors to Kuwait airport were imposed for security reasons.

On his recent visit to Yugoslavia, Shaykh Nawwaf said it had achieved an unexpected success. He added that his talks with Yugoslav officials in Belgrade had opened the door for greater cooperation in combatting terrorism and other security concerns.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM on Support Voiced for Libya

GF271555 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Hassan's Bomb and Al-Qadhdhafi's Missiles"]

[Excerpts] Less than 24 hours after the bomb which King Hassan II exploded concerning the selection of an Arab leader to hold a public dialogue with the sponsorship on the Fes summit resolutions, North Africa turned into a new firebelt. This time the belt was ignited by the United States in its provocations against Libya — provocations caused by the U.S. fleets both roaming international waters in the Mediterranean and also by encroaching upon Libyan waters in the Gulf of Sidra.

What is truly astonishing is that the Moroccan king, for instance, who yesterday called for implementing the joint Arab Defense Pact with Iraq, did not call for implementing the pact toward Libya despite the unity treaty that links him to Tripoli.

Despite our strong opposition to the Libyan stand toward Iraq and our numerous reservations toward some of Tripoli's actions, we still stand by Libya in the face of U.S. provocations. We will not be satisfied with only condemning the aggression by the U.S. fleet and the air raids; we urge the entire Arab nation to rise to its historical obligations and pan-Arab duties, as the Arab Libyan people are the same as the people of Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and the Gulf.

PDRY

March Held in 'Indignation' Over U.S. 'Aggression'

GF271543 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Aden today witnessed a popular march in solidarity with the fraternal Libyan people as an expression of the people's sweeping indignation over the blatant U.S. aggression against our brothers in Libya. The march started from the 26 September square and headed toward the public square in Khurmakthar.

The march culminated in a popular demonstration attended by brother Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; brother Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; a number of members of the political bureau, YSP Central Com-

mittee, and the Council of Ministers; presidents of popular organizations; the secretary general of the Libyan brotherhood bureau in Aden; and representatives of the Arab and world liberation movements in Aden.

Amid slogans and chants in denunciation of the U.S. aggression against the territory of fraternal Libya, Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, delivered a speech affirming the solidarity of our party, people, and country with Libya and their full support for the Libyan people's legitimate struggle against all imperialist plots and the aggressive challenges which aim at undermining the national leadership of the Libyan people and at liquidating the 1 September Revolution. He praised the revolutionary changes and achievements the 1 September Revolution has accomplished under the daring and courageous leadership of Arab struggler Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He recalled Libya's eminent role in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He said: It is not strange that imperialist forces try to plot against the Libyan people and their heroic revolution through all means and methods, which culminated in imposing an economic blockade against Libya and in the armed aggression against its national sovereignty. He expressed confidence that Libya will hold fast against the aggression and in defending its national sovereinty in order to continue its strong revolutionary march thanks to its people's will, their experienced leadership, and the solidarity of all forces of freedom, progress, socialism, and peace all over the world.

Brother Salim Salih Muhammad affirmed our people's condemnation of the U.S. imperialist aggression against Libya and our people's readiness to fight the U.S. aggression. He noted that the Libyan people and the Arab people are not alone in fighting the U.S. aggression and arrogance; all struggling people in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and all the world's peace-loving and progress-loving peoples stand with them.

Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Salam Abu Bakr, secretary of the Libyan brotherhood bureau in Aden, delivered a speech praising our PDRY people in their sincere fraternal solidarity with the Arab Libyan people in their courageous resistance to the U.S. aggression which aims at Libya's sovereignty and security. He noted that from the first moment, the PDRY leadership and people expressed concern over U.S. provocations off the Gulf of Sidra. He affirmed that this embodies Arab solidarity against the challenges against our Arab nation. He recalled the U.S. imperialism's defeats in Vietnam, Cuba, and Lebanon. He asserted that the Arab Libyan people have pledged to strongly resist any aggression in order to teach the U.S. forces a new lesson to be added to the epics of heroism and sacrifices by the struggling peoples in defense of their freedom.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Message

GF271929 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander-in-chief of the National Guard, today received Major Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, RCC member in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salan al-Turayki. They conveyed to his highness a message from his excellency Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the president of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, to his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

KUNA: Saudi Crown Prince on Gulf War, Arab Summit

LD271127 Kuwait KUNA in English 0959 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] London, March 27 (KUNA) — Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz affirmed in his comment on the Iraq-Iran war that his country is against "Moslem bloodshed" stressing on Saudi Arabia's support to Iraq.

In a [word indistinct] with Arab writers and thinkers, reported by *AL-TADAMUN* magazine, to be published here Saturday, Prince 'Abdallah said "our belief in our Arabism urges us to support our brothers in Iraq in their defence of their land."

He expressed hope the Gulf war would come to an end soon, though he noted that "Iran seems to be determined to continue it".

On his country's stance toward the Iranian threats to expand the Iraq-Iran war to include other Gulf countries and if the Gulf Peninsula Shield Force will be used to defend those countries, the Saudi official said "We hope the day would not come when we are forced to use the Peninsula Shield Force, but the Iranian aggression on any Gulf country is an aggression on the Kingdom.."

On Saudi Arabia's relations with the present Iranian regime, Prince 'Abdallah said "Our dealing with Iran is tolerant," noting that although "the Iranians are peculiar in their attitude we still go along with them till the end.

Referring to the Iranian foreign minister's latest visit to Saudi Arabia, Prince 'Abdallah said "the visit did not come out with any positive results", and on the visit of Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal to Tehran he said, the visit occurred following "strong insistence by it".

On the shooting down of two Iranian airplanes over the Saudi territories, the Saudi official said "this proves Iran's determination on provoking us," affirming that the Iranian planes were warned by Saudi aircraft when they were approaching the Saudi airspace, but the Iranian planes ignored the warning.

Meanwhile, Prince 'Abdallah expressed hope that Arab leaders would hold a summit conference, in response to Saudi efforts to unify the Arab rank.

On Egypt's role in the Arab platform, he said "the Arabs cannot do without Egypt, and Egypt cannot do without the Arabs." [Word indistinct] of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union, Prince 'Abdallah said his country has conditions in this matter, "but expressed belief that the establishment of such relations could be after six months or after a year."

Air Exercises Held; Tornado Planes Arrive

GF280634 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1620 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Al-Dammam, 27 Mar (SPA) — The Saudi Royal Air Force concluded exercises today in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, vice minister of defense and aviation and inspector general.

After the exercises, Chief of Staff General Muhammad al-Hammad announced the arrival of the first group of Tornado planes piloted by Saudi pilots. He said that this group will be followed by other groups, God willing. Upon arrival, the Tornado planes made two parade flights over the dais.

After that Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, vice minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, made a press statement saying that the improvement of Saudi armed forces under His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, is progressing well.

Concerning reports that there were mediators in the Tornado deal, his highness said that this deal was concluded between two states directly and without mediators. His highness then attended a luncheon hosted by the commander of King 'Abd al-'Aziz Air Base, after which his highness inspected the first group of Tornado planes which arrived in the Kingdom today.

UAE

Papers Comment on U.S., Libyan Confrontation

'Retreat' of U.S. Fleet Noted

GF280742 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0650 GMT 28 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 28 Mar (WAM) — In their editorials today, three local newspapers comment on the retreat of the U.S. fleet from the Libyan coast. The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* considers this retreat a point in favor of Libya and its steadfastness and in favor of the Arab and international forces which have supported Libya. However, the newspaper warns that the U.S. retreat does not necessarily mean an end to the U.S. aggression against the Arab nation. "In fact, this aggression is only one chapter in the aggressive U.S. policy toward the Arabs and the entire Arab nation."

AL-ITTIHAD emphasizes that this aggression "should make us, the Arabs, put forward a plan to make the Mediterranean an Arab lake, at least along its southern coast," because this sea is an indivisible part of our nation's borders and an indivisible part of the security of the historical Mediterranean countries, not of transient and artificial entities.

The newspaper *AL-BAYAN* says that the continued U.S. defiance of the Arab nation should not pass without a pause in thought by the Arabs, because the United States in its aggressive raids has exceeded all limits; it would not have done so had it not been for Arab differences which encourage it to adopt its aggressive policy.

AL-BAYAN says that the U.S. President would not continue this policy if he believed that U.S. interests in the Arab homeland would not remain safe if he continued this hostile policy toward the Arabs, regardless of the devastating power he possesses.

AL-KHALIJ links the U.S. aggression against Libya to the Zionist aggression against Lebanon and the Arab countries and considers the two aggressions one indivisible part. "The United States and Israel want to put an end to points of resistance to their plan to control the Arab homeland. There is no difference between a country which opposes U.S. policy and an organization or a movement that does so. These targets are included in the calculations of the Americans and Zionists for elimination."

In conclusion, *AL-KHALIJ* wonders what the Arabs have done to reply to the Zionist-U.S. aggression. "Will the Arab citizen continue to wait for a unified Arab stand in a summit conference which the Arab countries cannot convene? Will the Arab parties who are the targets of Zionist-U.S. aggression remain scattered, in conflict, and at loggerheads? Do those who are the targets of the U.S. aggression want to give proper answers in order to form a real Arab front to counter the aggression and achieve victory?"

Libyan Stand Against U.S. Viewed

GF281038 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 28 Mar 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Standing Up to a Superpower"]

[Text] Reports that the Americans are preparing to remove their provocative and aggressive presence from near the shores of Libya ahead of the scheduled date of April 1 for the conclusion of their military exercises will be welcomed.

The confrontation in the Gulf of Sidra is entirely the Americans' doing, and the responsibility for ending it is therefore wholly their's. For the U.S. it will be pleaded that it has made its point — to establish the right of free navigation in the Gulf — and can now move its warships away. This would have been true if Libya had not physically challenged the presence of the American fleet. It did, and if any point has been made, it is by Libya which has forced the Americans to realise that it would be better to assume a low profile rather than deepen the crisis.

Certainly Libya has made the moral point that a superpower cannot arrogate to itself the right to walk in anywhere and expect to be greeted everywhere with humble salutations. Libya has also succeeded in gaining the support and sympathy of the other Arab countries and of peace-loving people all over the world.

The Arab League has described the U.S. moves as constituting an act threatening the collective security and safety of the Arab nation and held the Americans responsible for any consequences arising out of their action. The league has also talked of the Arabs' commitment to adopt practical measures to repel the aggression, and it is to be hoped that this question will receive the serious consideration of all member-states.

Libya may also have focused attention on the wider issue of superpower militarisation of the world's oceans. Soviet leader

Mikhail Gorbachev has offered to withdraw his country's fleet from the Mediterranean if the U.S. does the same and also suggested the convening of a Helsinki-type security and cooperation conference for the region. This is a constructive proposal which deserves to be moved forward, although in view of the failure of all efforts so far to make the Indian Ocean — another highly militarised bit of water — a zone of peace, optimism about any progress must remain very guarded. It may be difficult right now to imagine the day when the superpowers will begin to behave less like warlords. But if more countries were prepared like Libya to stand up to big-power bullying and if more were ready to deny military and refuelling facilities to superpower armadas, that day might dawn sooner than we expect.

YAR

Daily Praises Country's Stand in Support of Libya

GF280556 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 28 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper *26 SEPTEMBER* praises our country's stand on the aggression carried out against Libya by the U.S. 6th Fleet.

The newspaper notes the stand announced by the president, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, to his brother Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that our country supports the brothers in Libya in defense of their territory and legitimate rights and in their steadfastness against the brutal aggression by the U.S. 6th Fleet against Libyan territory.

It also notes our country's commitment to the provisions of the Arab joint defense treaty.

The newspaper describes this stand as an expression of our sincere affiliation to our common nation and our readiness to struggle to defend our right and the free indivisible Arab will.

Newspapers React to U.S. Maneuvers Near Libya

AL-AKHBAR on U.S. 'Provocation'

NC280750 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) — In today's editorial, *AL-AKHBAR* welcomes Egypt's stand on the recent incidents that took place between the United States and Libya. It says that when Egypt calls upon the two parties to exercise self-restraint and to prevent an escalation in armed conflicts, it does so in the realization that the recurring extensive U.S. maneuvers were intended as a clear provocation and a show of force.

The paper adds that Libya fell into the trap when it fired 12 missiles; thus, both parties miscalculated. The editorial concludes: That which happened was not unexpected. The two countries' tense relations grew even worse last December when Washington accused Libya of involvement in the terrorist attacks on the Rome and Vienna airports. The United States threatened military revenge and then moved the Sixth Fleet and its aircraft carriers to the southern Mediterranean. The United States has carried out four military maneuvers off Libya's shores since Washington imposed economic sanctions on and banned all transactions with Libya.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on U.S. 'Aggression'

NC280740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0641 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) — *AL-JUMHURIYAH* stresses in today's editorial that the U.S. aggression against Libya and Israel's aggression against Lebanon are simply two prongs of a large-scale attack on the Arab world that involves several fronts and more than one axis.

AL-JUMHURIYAH goes on to say that this attack is not limited to military confrontation but includes economic action as well, pointing out that the recent attack on Arab oil income is no different from the shelling of Palestinian camps, essentially. In conclusion, the paper declares that the Arab tragedy lies in the fact that we do not see the obvious truth, choosing instead to bury our heads in the sand. The question is: Will we ever awaken and emerge from the Arabs' chronic slumber?

Ghali Says Israel 'Disfigures' Occupied Lands

NC271219 Paris AFP in English 1213 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 27 (AFP) — Israel has "disfigured" the territories it occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and its annexation of the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem pose major obstacles to solving the Palestinian question, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said in an interview published here Thursday.

Mr. Ghali, in an interview with the French-language *LE JOURNAL D'EGYPTE*, asserted that the Golan Heights belonged to Syria, while East Jerusalem was part of the Israel-occupied West Bank. Wednesday was the seventh anniversary of the signing of the Camp David peace accords between Israel and Egypt.

Speculation on Mossad Role in Attack on Israelis

PM271608 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 24 Mar 86 p 6

[Lufti 'Abd al-Latif analysis: "What After the Shooting of the Four Israelis at the Fair?"]

[Excerpts] For the fourth time in about 2 years a movement calling itself "Egypt's Revolution" has claimed responsibility for an incident. In the statement it issues after every incident against the Israelis the movement says that it intends to assassinate every remaining Zionist on Egyptian territory.

Does this mean that there really is an organization called "Egypt's Revolution" or "Egypt's Revolutionaries" and that it was behind these four incidents? Assuming for the sake of argument that there is such an organization, which only assassinates Israelis, what is its material and numerical size, what are its future objectives, and will it continue to be wholly or partially mysterious? These are the questions on people's minds. They are difficult questions to answer.

On the other hand, could these acts have been committed individually, that is by various individuals with no organizational links, reflecting an expression of religious and historical tradition against Zionism in retaliation for its acts against Muslims, Arabs, and Egyptians? Or is the Israeli intelligence service Mossad behind most of these incidents to portray the Egyptian regime as a weak and unstable regime incapable of protecting the lives of diplomats, and particularly to give the impression that the Egyptian regime does not represent the Egyptian people and should therefore be easy to influence in negotiations?

Why shouldn't the Mossad be behind these incidents? Zionism had, in the past, sacrificed unwanted individuals from its own ranks for the sake of future gains and objectives related to the greater Zionist state extending "from the Nile to the Euphrates" with no other boundaries. It is not unlikely that Israel's Mossad would commit such acts at a time of Egyptian-Israeli negotiations to freeze or slow down these negotiations, or to get the highest price for Israel.

I believe that what happened after the four Israelis were shot outside the industrial fair last Wednesday evening explains this last view. The incident occurred on Wednesday evening while an Israeli delegation was in Cairo for the Tabah negotiations. This week an Egyptian delegation will go to Israel to resume the negotiations. The day after the incident the Egyptian Foreign Ministry condemned the incident and the Interior Ministry was looking for the culprits.

On Friday the Egyptian press appeared, carrying Israel's asking price as reflected in the following assertions:

1. A meeting between Mubarak and the Israeli tourism minister.

2. Immediate steps to remove the obstacles standing in the way of Egyptian-Israeli tourism.

3. No restrictions on Egyptian-Israeli trade other than the normal restrictions that apply to trade with all countries.

4. Egyptian Tourism Minister Fu'ad Sultan announces that the problems that had prevented Egyptian tourists from going to Israel has been solved and that the coming days will witness waves of Egyptian tourists going to Israel.

5. Mubarak announces that the Tabah negotiations are open and that there is no deadline for these negotiations.

Anyway, the issue stays on people's minds and the questions remain unanswered.

Delegation to Tabah Talks Returns From Tel Aviv
NC281111 Cairo MENA in English 1055 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 28 (MENA) — The Egyptian delegation to Tabah talks led by Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry, returned here today coming from Israel.

Al-'Arabi said upon arrival that the Egyptian and Israeli sides resumed during this round of talks discussion of items of the arbitration arrangement, while they disagreed on some of these items an agreement was reached on several procedural matters. The next round of talks between both sides will be resumed here next week.

Lutfi on Relations With Arabs, 5-Year Plan
NC271736 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi has emphasized once again that relations between Egypt and the Arabs are continuing, despite the absence of diplomatic ties. He stated that no one could possibly cut the Egyptians off from the Arabs.

The prime minister made it clear that Egypt never broke off relations with anyone. He went on to say: We are confident that the decision to restore them will be made sooner or later. This, he noted, is only a passing cloud.

Dr Lutfi made these remarks in an interview with the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*. He stressed that the projects contained in the 5-year plan would continue and said there is no thought of canceling or postponing any of them. He added: The schemes outlined in the plan are essential. Besides, none of our projects concern the production of luxury goods.

Lutfi explained that 400,000 jobs must be made available each year. Therefore, he added, the cancellation of projects is out of the question. Dr Lutfi denied that income from the Suez Canal dropped in 1985. He pointed out: Egypt's revenue from the Suez Canal for that year was definitely no lower than in 1984. In fact, there was a slight increase in the collection of tolls in 1985.

Petroleum Minister Qandil on OPEC, Oil Prices
NC271624 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — According to 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Egypt played a major role at the recent meeting of OPEC countries in Geneva. He pointed out that Egypt formed a front of non-OPEC states at these sessions, which included Mexico, Oman, Angola, and Malaysia. The front managed to sponsor a working paper that caused the price of a barrel of oil to jump from $13 to $15.50 in a single day.

He maintained that disagreement among OPEC nations on the quota system had led to the current fall in prices.

During today's meeting of the NDP's economic committee, 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil asserted that the front of non-OPEC countries was also able to put forward a draft resolution stating that all oil-producing nations are responsible for prices.

Mr Qandil noted that the drop in prices had been expected since 1980, adding that the manipulators who ruined the oil market provided the primary stimulus for it.

Touching on the measures taken by Egypt to face the fall in prices, Mr. Qandil explained that the portion of the state budget devoted to the petroleum sector was drawn up in a way that takes account of such anticipated fluctuations. It estimates that the price per barrel will range between $11 and $13. He pointed out that any increase above that figure would apply only to Egypt.

Minister Qandil said Egypt is self-sufficient in oil, with the exception of diesel fuel, which is imported. He also noted that Egypt's daily oil needs are placed at 60-80,000 tons.

The NDP's Economic Committee, which met today under its chairman, Dr Samir Tubar, discussed ways of reducing the balance of payments deficit, adjusting the course of the economy, and the role that oil can play in achieving this.

'Arafat Ends 6-Day Visit, Leaves Cairo
NC271840 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Cairo this evening following a 6-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, 'Arafat held talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and other senior Egyptian officials. He also met with UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding.

Saddam Husayn Inspects Training Camps

JN271553 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, Armed Forces commander in chief, has inspected two training camps. His excellency witnessed a tactical exercise with live ammunition during which the Iraqi fighters attacked a mock enemy position and liberated it. The exercise reflected the efficiency and high ability of the Iraqi Armed Forces in carrying out all the missions with which they are entrusted.

President Saddam Husayn gave his directives on how important it is for the Iraqi fighter to be alert and how he must assess the situation before moving from one position to the other.

The fighters pledged to President Saddam that they will seek martyrdom in their defense of the homeland and that they will continue to fight until the last inch of the sacred Iraqi soil is liberated and the land is purged of the aggressors' filth.

'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad From Cairo

JN271958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1952 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived here from Cairo this evening on a visit to Iraq that will last several days. Yasir 'Arafat paid a visit to Egypt which lasted several days during which he met with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, with whom he discussed the developments of the Palestinian cause and the efforts underway to attain a just solution.

Further Reportage on Ba'th, LCY Officials' Talks

Ramadan Receives SFRY Party Official

JN271425 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Hamidja Pozdera, member of the LCY Central Committee, and his accompanying delegation here today. The two sides reviewed bilateral economic and trade relations and ways to promote them, Iraq-Iran war developments, how to activate and support the Nonaligned Movement, and issues of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, director of the Ba'th Party National Command Foreign Relations Department, and the SFRY ambassador in Baghdad.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From Arab League Meeting

JN271027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz returned to Baghdad at dawn today after participating in the Arab League Council meetings that ended in Tunis yesterday.

Communiques Issued on Combat Operations

Communique No 2,164

JN271838 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,164 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through daring and efficient operations, our valiant Armed Forces reiterate their commitment to their principles and to their pledge to the great people that they will saturate the soil with the aggressors' blood and will uproot any presence they have on every inch of our beloved land that they have desecrated. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: Our triumphant forces of the heroic Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to inflict heavy losses on the aggressors through the unceasing shelling of the narrow strip in which the enemy forces are present, using all types of weapons. Our forces are imposing their full control on the situation and are taking all the appropriate measures to destroy the aggressors and expel them from our territory.

2. We Iraqis have decided to defend our land, safeguard our sovereignty, prove through daring acts that we are affiliated with our Arab heritage, demonstrate that we are capable of mapping out our future as we wish, and we will ruthlessly bear down on our enemy until we wipe it out and completely remove the grudge-bearing sentiments they harbor in their minds with our intractable power, the only method they understand. We will also make them sustain irreparable losses and deprive them of any means to commit aggression and of any facility they may use for their evil designs.

We Iraqis have also decided to make the aggressor sustain tragedies and make those who antagonize us drink of their own blood. We have also decided to force those who insist on war and who rejoice at its tribulations to receive their daily share in terms of the destruction they will pay for as the price for their crime. We have never been unjust to anyone. However, they themselves have chosen the road to perdition. This is the reward of the renegades.

Our giant Air Force, the pride of the Arabs, their asset in the epics to come, Iraq's long arm, and the fist of freedom that will reach the advocates of servitude wherever they may anytime it wishes, will continue thanks to the soldiers of leader Saddam Husayn, to proceed on the road to victory, full of anger that will make the heads of the rogues bend down under their blows. At 0950 today, the valiant Air Force planes carried out a raid against the extremely important Talah Zang railway bridge which the enemy uses to transfer supplies, troops, and weapons. This bridge is situated northeast of Dezful and connects Dezful with Qom and Tehran and is one of the most important crossing points between northern and southern Iran and is extensively used by the enemy for purposes of aggression. In a lightning raid, the bridge was completely destroyed and transformed into burning junk.

3. In addition to the above, our Air Force carried out 233 combat missions against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and weapons emplacements, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. Our valiant eagles dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0910 today. At 1215 today, our valiant eagles carried out a successful raid against the Ganaveh oil terminal, setting their targets ablaze. At 1240 today, seven large vessels escorted by nine large boats were sighted north of the Arab Gulf while they were on their way to the entrance of the Shatt al-'Arab. They were carrying military hardware, weapons, and enemy troop concentrations. Fifteen minutes later, several of our planes were overflying the area. It was a splendid opportunity for our eagles to demonstrate their dexterity and to mete punishment on the enemy. They continued to deal a number of blows to the naval convoy, pouncing on their preys one after the other until 1530 today, when the last prey was wiped out. The Khomeyniites' vessels and boats were transformed by our sons into debris tossed around by the waves.

At 1242 today, our planes carried out a devastating raid on the Robat camp, inflicting losses in weapons, equipment, and personnel on the enemy. At 1435 today, our planes carried out a destructive raid on the Moshk camp, inflicting losses in weapons, personnel, and equipment on the enemy. At 1630 today, our planes carried out a daring raid against the Galdian camp, killing many enemy soldiers and destroying enemy weapons, military hardware, and ammunition depots. After carrying out all these missions, they safely returned to the homeland under God's protection and guidance. Let the Khomeyniites understand that we will sow death among their ranks. Glory to our Air Force, and we thank God for His gifts.

4. The staunch helicopter gunship knights continue to inflict heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy forces. They carried out 33 combat sorties today, after which they safely returned to base, praise be to God.

5. A patrol of one of our units in the I Army Corps northern sector clashed with an enemy patrol, capturing two soldiers while the rest fled. Elsewhere in the same sector, our units destroyed one enemy excavator and one large vehicle.

6. At 1047 today, two enemy planes tried to violate our international borders over the VII Army Corps front. Our ground resistance men intercepted them, shooting down one of them, an F-4 plane.

7. In another of their cowardly acts, the forces of the frustrated clique in Iran shelled the Mandali and Khanaqin environs and Darband-e Khan with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 March 1986

Communique No 2,165

JN281235 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1024 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,165 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 March 1986]

[Excerpt] O proud Iraqis: The unjust enemy had been occupying some extremely important and strategic mountain peaks in the northern part of the homeland since 1983. They are Peaks 1,264; 1,275; 1,312; 1,318; 1,332; 1,360; 1,368; 1,308; 1,369; 1,421; 1,436; 1,440; 1,341; and 1,443, as well as the areas of (Mamindawah), (Junarat Shaykh Latif), and (Kani Kunluh).

The wicked Khomeyniites thought they would remain in these proud mountains in order to satisfy their greedy ambitions, nurture their grudges, and use these mountains to harm our people and homeland. Little did they know that our God would protect our nation and that the eyes of the Iraqis were watching them and that the Iraqi leadership's wisdom and courage would incinerate all foreign presence on our proud land. Thus, the heroic I Army Corps forces began their stormy, sweeping attack at 1930 [1630 GMT] yesterday and ended it at 0845 today. In fierce battle, during which our men brought back memories of our grandfathers' courage and determination, deriving their will from the spirit and vitality of the leadership, our forces climbed the mountain peaks one after another over the bodies of the Khomeyniites, leaving the enemies as burned cadavers filling the hills and the slopes of the mountains. They humbled the heads of the lowly and mean ones and raised Iraq's flag over the immortal peaks. Our forces liberated all the above peaks and wiped out the enemy presence there. The situation was settled in favor of our triumphant forces, which reached the northern side of the Halwan area. O proud Iraqis, the men who led this epic and were at the forefront were:

Special Forces Staff Lieutenant General Nizar 'Abd al-Karim al-Khazraji, commander of the heroic I Army Corps, who planned and supervised the battle.

Special Forces Staff Brigadier General Kamil Sajit 'Aziz, commander of the brave Al-Siddiq Forces, who was leading three columns, the first under the command of Special Forces Brigadier General 'Ali Husayn Muz'il Mun'im Muhammadawi; the second under the command of Special Forces Commander Lieutenant Colonel Zaki Khattab al-Fad'am; and the tank column under the command of Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Rahman 'Awwad.

Staff Brigadier General Samir Sa'id 'Abd al-Hakim, commander of the brave Al-Harith Forces, who was assisted by Staff Brigadier General Natiq Shakir al-Ramiz. The two commanders over saw three columns. The first column under the command of Staff Lieutenant Colonel Mukhlif Jamil al-Nu'aymi, the second column under the command of Colonel Hassun Dakhil al-Jumayl, and the third column, which is a tank column, under the command of Major 'Abdallah Salih Majid.

The artillery effort was supervised by Major General 'Amir Shit Husayn.

The brave fighters from our heoric Kurdish people participated in this honorable battle within the engagement [Al-Mushaghalah] column, which consisted of: The 1st Regiment under the command of Adviser [al-Mustashar] Latif Ahmad al-Zibari, assisted by 'Asif Ahmad al-Zibari; the 9th Regiment under the command of Husayn Jihangir al-Mizwari; and the 20th Brigade under the command of Ibrahim al-Haj 'Alawi.

As always, your Air Force and brave pilots played their great role in the battle. The helicopter gunships and the special units of the heroic Popular Army, the brave backer of our Armed Forces, played their splendid role in this battle of dignity. The Ba'th Party comrades from the northern military branch were at the heart of the attack, taking a leading position.

In short, we say that the Iraqi people and their vanguards, both Arabs and Kurds, and the entire people of Saddam Husayn were present, fighting and emerging victorious in this immortal battle. The enemy suffered very massive losses in men, equipment, and hardware. Only the prisoners, who surrendered to our forces in great numbers, escaped death.

This is Iraq's victory. This is the end of any such aggression on our blessed land. We pledge to our people that we will make the disaster which will befall the Khomeyniites in the southern part of the homeland even more bitter and disastrous. Their fate will be an abject defeat and they will end up in hell.

Our land will remain for us. We will preserve our revolution's achievements, our sovereignty, and our secure life under our wise leadership.

Long live the people, long live the leader, long live the army. God is great, accursed are the enemies.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 March 1986

House Approves Draft Electoral Law for 1986

JN271422 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The House of Representatives approved with an absolute majority the House of Representatives draft electoral law for 1986 at this morning's session presided over by House Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz and attended by Prime Miniister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the ministers.

According to this law, the House of Representatives will now have 142 seats instead of 60: 71 seats for the East Bank and 71 seats for the West Bank, 60 of which are allotted to the occupied West Bank and 11 to the refugee camps in the East Bank.

USSR Envoy Gives Lecture on Foreign Policy, Issues

JN271531 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Mar 86 p 20

[Sana' al-'Alul Dispatch]

[Text] Amman — USSR Ambassador in Amman Aleksandr Zinchuk has stressed that a solution to the Palestine question can only be achieved through a unified Arab stand. He pointed out that Israel will not withdraw from the occupied Arab territories unless the Arabs adopt a unified stand.

This came in a lecture the USSR ambassador delivered at the International Affairs Society last night on the results of the 27th CPSU Congress regarding the USSR's foreign policy. The ambassador spoke about various international issues of interest to the Arab world in the presence of several statemen, ambassadors, and members of the diplomatic corps in Amman.

Zinchuk said that the Middle East crisis was among the priorities Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev touched on at the CPSU congress. He added that the USSR concept of a solution to the Palestine question is based on Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, solving the Palestinians' problem by giving them the right to self-determination, and guaranteeing every side's right to live in peace in the region.

The USSR ambassador accused the United States, which deals with this issue as if the Middle East region were under its control and influence, of being the cause of the lack of a settlement of the Middle East crisis and a solution to the Palestine question.

Zinchuk reiterated that the USSR will not restore relations with the Zionist entity bcause Israel has not showed any intention of withdrawing from the Arab territories it occupied in 1967. He stressed Moscow's continuous support for the Arab struggle, pointing to the support for the PLO, the Soviet agreement to supply Syria with weapons, and to the USSR stand on the U.S. provocations against Libya.

The Soviet ambassador spoke about the Iraq-Iran war and called for intensifying efforts to end the conflict in the Gulf by political means. He pointed out that the region's enemies, including Israel, are the only ones who benefit from this war.

Referring to the Afghan issue, the USSR ambassador expressed Moscow's desire to find a solution to this issue as soon as possible. He also hinted at the possibility of the Soviet forces' withdrawal from Afghanistan, pointing out that Moscow is preparing a formula to guarantee the noninfiltration of weapons into Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal. He explained that Moscow's policy is marked by noninterference in Afghanistan's domestic affairs, and that Moscow wants the others to guarantee this after the Soviet withdrawal.

Regarding the U.S. strategic defense plan, known as "star wars," Zinchuk said that the general thrust of the recent CPSU congress was the achievement of peace in the world by reducing nuclear arms. He added that nuclear disarmament should begin with a moratorium on nuclear tests and on developing these arms. He pointed out that the United States did not respond to the Soviet peace efforts but, on the contrary, has adopted the concept of "star wars" weapons, which it is currently preparing. He said that the invention of such weapons is impossible and is a waste of time and money.

Army Chief Commander Receives Canadian Official

JN270708 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received in his office at the General Command this morning Nigel Brodeur, deputy chief of defence staff of the Canadian Forces, who is currently visiting Jordan. Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the Canadian ambassador, and the Canadian military attache attended the meeting.

Amman TV Notes U.S. Reaction to 'Arafat's Remarks

JN271048 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] In response to a question on the truth behind PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's statement that he was still awaiting the U.S. Government's reply to three formulas he had submitted to the U.S. side with regard to resuming the Middle East peace process, the U.S. official spokesman said: There is nothing new for the U.S. Administration to respond to. The current situation resulted from the PLO's failure to accept UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Reportage on Reaction to U.S., Libyan Conflict

House Denounces 'Aggression'

JN271625 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — During a session it held today, the House of Representatives denounced the U.S. aggression against Libyan territories proceeding from Jordan's pan-Arab belief that any aggression against any part of the Arab homeland is an aggression against it. This denunciation has been circulated among Arab parliaments.

AL-RA'Y on Fleet Withdrawal Proposal

JN280820 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
28 Mar 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Yes for Fleet Withdrawal From the Mediterranean"]

[Text] We say yes to Soviet leader Gorbachev's constructive proposal calling for withdrawing U.S. and Soviet fleets from the Mediterranean.

We proudly voice appreciation for the House of Representatives which, in our people's name, denounced the U.S. aggression on fraternal Libya. We frankly and clearly assert that the U.S. Administration has harmed itself and lost much of its prestige as a result of this aggression which was described by U.S. Republican Senator Mark Hatfield as a serious game and an unnecessary confrontation.

This fact cannot be changed by Israel's welcome of the aggression and by Peres' description of it as a smart, responsible action worthy of appreciation. This description is an expression of the terrorist course which Israel believes in and which was and still is a reason for the unrest and tragedies in the region.

Halting the U.S. fleets' provocative maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra yesterday prior to the scheduled date set for the beginning of next month cannot be viewed as a generous U.S. deed. The U.S. Administration was obliged to halt the maneuvers as a result of the angry reactions which stormed the world, as well as in anticipation of possible ramifications, particularly after the strong Italian intervention in its capacity as the country whose harbors host the 6th Fleet.

It is evident that international firmness is capable of curbing U.S. haughtiness and that the belief by some that U.S. will is superior in the international arena has now become just a mere legend.

It should be remembered that halting these maneuvers does not end the problem. The problem can actually be ended by responding to the Soviet leader's proposal calling for withdrawing the U.S. and Soviet fleets from the Mediterranean, especially since the two superpowers are not littoral countries of the Mediterranean.

Since the U.S. Administration has not paid attention to this proposal, the many dangers posed by the intensified U.S. military presence in the Mediterranean will continue to exist. The region's countries should be alert and should struggle together to remove this presence threatening peace.

Group Claims Rocket Attack on U.S. Embassy Annex

NC281042 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Three Energa anti-tank rockets were fired early today at an empty annex of the U.S. Embassy in West Beirut. The annex is only 200 meters from the main building. A spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in 'Awkar refused to confirm or deny the attack.

An unidentified person claiming to be speaking on behalf of the 'Umar al-Mukhtar unit of the National Revolutionary Command [al-qiyadah al-qawmiyah al-thawriyah], told Voice of Lebanon that the group is responsible for the attack.

Karami Condemns U.S., Israeli Attacks

NC271347 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami on 27 March; place not given — recorded]

[Text] I flatly condemn the U.S. 6th Fleet's attacks on Libyan territorial waters and in the Gulf of Sidra. The whole world recognizes that we support international charters and laws forbiding any big state to attack small states. Therefore, we support Libya in its present circumstances. We expect the Security Council and the peace-loving states of the world to endorse Libya's actions in its defense and in defense of its waters.

I have received the Soviet charge d'affaires, who conveyed to me a message on these matters.

Israel's arrogance and its continued attacks against the south and other parts of Lebanon are no surprise to us. Israel tries to exploit every opportunity and situation, particularly if the United States is involved. The timing of the arrogance displayed in the Gulf of Sidra and the attacks on the camps and on south Lebanon is an indication that aggression is second nature to some people who do not want to respect the rights of big or small states. However, none of this will alter our views. We will continue our policy and course. We will defend our sovereignty and bring about a total withdrawal from our blessed land.

Action Committee Denounces Israeli Attack

NC271448 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] During its meeting today, the National Action Committee denounced the Israeli attack on the outskirts of Sidon and called for the continuation of the liberation process and the rejection of any security arrangements with Israel. The committee also warned against attempts to undermine the strike force and distort its security and patriotic role.

Explosion 'Completely Destroys' Israeli Vehicle

NC271931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The National Resistance Front issued a statement this evening announcing that its fighters detonated a 60-kg explosive charge on the 'Ayn Majdalayn junction, between Kafr Huna and Jazzin, as an Israeli intelligence officer was driving past in a Mercedes vehicle, accompanied by a military jeep. The explosion completely destroyed the Israeli officer's vehicle and caused the jeep to overturn on the roadside, where it caught fire. Immediately afterwards, RPG's and light weapons were used to attack those who remained alive.

Syrian Forces Engaged in Al-Matn Fighting

Army Says 'Regular Forces' Involved

NC271738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Syrian Social Nationalist Party sources have reported that the party's fighters today destroyed four Army tanks and another vehicle that was seen burning on Tamraz Hill. The sources accused the Army of shelling the party's advance position in Al-'Ayrun from its positions on Tamraz Hill.

In a statement issued today, a Lebanese Army source said that an anti-tank rocket was fired at noon at an Army armored personnel carrier on the Al-Dawwar front. The source said that the militias do not possess such anti-tank weapons. The rocket was fired at the armored personnel carrier on the Al-Dawwar front. This means that regular forces are openly involved in the Lebanese war.

Syria 'Reveals True Intentions'

NC272315 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Statement by the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee — date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] Syria has once again revealed its true intentions by shelling the eastern areas. At various times it has attempted to subjugate these areas by using methods of incitement and intimidation but it has failed; it has also failed to persuade the Lebanese factions to confront the eastern areas.

Having first paved the way by escalating the political situation, Syria has, since last Monday, deliberately escalated the military situation, and committed terrible acts of aggression against defenseless citizens.

The Lebanese Forces Executive Committee has made a full examination of the dimensions of this escalation by the Syrian forces, and has noted that it came as a direct result of their failure to turn the ongoing war into a war among the Lebanese in order to justify their presence in Arab and world public opinion. The Executive Committee also noted the connection between the military escalation and the series of explosions in the eastern

areas, the latest of which was the booby-trapped car that blew up in the Al-Ashrafiyah area last Wednesday. After a careful study of all aspects of the situation, and in light of continuing endeavors to reach a solution to the current dispute that would be in the interests of all the Lebanese, and that would safeguard the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon, the Lebanese Forces wish to stress the following:

1. The II Corps of Syrian artillery, comprising the artillery units of the 51st, 85th, and 62nd Brigades, in addition to the 122d Regiment of field artillery, particularly the 10th Mechanized Division, and the special units of the 41st Regiment, all of which are stationed in the upper Al-Matn and central Al-Biqa' areas, have pounded residential areas, leaving dozens of defenseless victims.

2. The Syrian motive behind the shelling is to induce the Lebanese Forces to return fire against the residential areas facing them. However, the Lebanese forces did not fall into this trap.

3. While stressing their eagerness for dialogue as the only way to achieve national reconciliation, and their determination to find a peaceful solution to the country's crisis, the Lebanese forces call on all Lebanese leaders in general, and on Islamic and nationalist leaders in particular, to shoulder their responsibilities toward the homeland, and to work to put a stop to the cycle of violence and destruction.

4. Throughout the crisis, Syria has tried to impose a unilateral solution and hinder the use of Arab and international good offices to end our dilemma. With this attitude, Syria sought to tighten its control over Lebanon, and undermine its regional and international prestige. It has turned Lebanon into a staging ground for terrorism against the Lebanese people, and against fraternal and friendly states. Therefore, the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee would like to announce the following:

1. The Lebanese Forces have resolved to respond to, and take part in, any cease-fire. The Lebanese Forces have always done this in the past, and will do so in the future.

2. The Lebanese Forces appeal to all factions in Lebanon to close ranks in order to face the current state of degeneration in a bid to launch a comprehensive national dialogue.

3. The Lebanese Forces call for the immediate convocation of the Arab League to end Syrian aggression against Lebanon.

4. The Lebanese Forces urge all fraternal Arab countries, as well as the international public, to act quickly in order to put a stop to Syrian military activity in Lebanon.

The Lebanese Forces, which always have been a shield in the liberated areas, promise the Lebanese as a whole, and the Christians in particular, that they will stand by their commitment to defend Lebanon and to free all its territory. The Lebanese forces also emphasize that the Lebanese people cling tightly to their liberty and to their rule over the entire country. The Lebanese people have taken a resolute stand to defend these values and they pledge to maintain this attitude, regardless of the price.

'Indiscriminate' Shelling Ends

NC271429 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The intensity of the indiscriminate shelling of villages in upper Al-Matn, northern Al-Matn, and the coastal and mountainous areas of Kasrawan eased at 1510 today, again resumed briefly between 1530 and 1540, and then stopped.

Fighting on the combat lines of Al-'Ayrun, Al-Dawwar, Shrin, and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah is still going on. Villages adjacent to the contact lines in Al-Matn are coming under artillery fire. Three people were reported slightly wounded in upper al-Matn.

Syrians Accuse Army

NC271450 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The security situation flared up on the Al-'Ayrun, Al-Duwwar, Tallat Tamraj, Shrin, Tighrin, and 'Ayn al-Tuffahah combat lines [upper Al-Matn] at 1230 today. Violent clashes with all types of weapons broke out at 1245. Duhur Shuwayr, Zar'un, Al-Mutayn, Bulunya, and Tighrin were subjected to heavy artillery shelling that covered most of northern Al-Matn.

A Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] source accused the Army of shelling the party's advanced position in Al-'Ayrun from an Army emplacement in Tallat Tamraj. Another SSNP source said this morning that the party's position came under intermittent sniper fire until 1000 when battles with rockets and machineguns took place on the lines of the central sector. The source added that SSNP forces advanced on the southern line and destroyed a position southwest of Al-Duwwar township, thus fully controlling the road junction in the Al-Shilimar area, the Bikfayya-Al-Duwwar road, and B'abdat-Zar'un-Mar Musa road. The source emphasized that the party's forces are still stationed in positions fully controlling Mar Musa township and that the SSNP suffered no casualties.

Meanwhile, a security source has reported that Wadi al-Karm in Biskinta has been coming under intermittent artillery shelling from Al-Zar'ur and Duhur Shuwayr.

'Fierce' Fighting Rekindled

NC271625 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The fighting on the upper al-Matn combat lines appeared to be dying down at 1500 today, but not for long. The situation on this front flared up again at 1630, with fierce fighting taking place on the Al-Dawwar, Al-'Ayrun, Tamraz Hill, Al-Zahriyah, and Salima lines. Rockets and shells have fallen beyond the combat lines in residential areas of the upper Al-Matn townships of Bikfayya, Mar Musa, Al-Dawwar, Bayt Shabab, Dahr al-Sawwan, 'Ayn al-'Alaq, Shimlaya, (Kafr 'Aqab), Wadi al-Karm, Brummana, B'abdat, and Bayt Miri.

The Syrian Social Nationalist Party has issued a statement claiming that its fighters have succeeded in taking control of

some positions. However, these claims are unfounded. Observers think that this statement was issued in an attempt to cover up the fact that other forces took part in the military operations.

Artillery Emplacements Destroyed

NC271851 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] According to security reports, a number of 130-mm artillery emplacements in the area of Hammana have been completely destroyed. Other long-range artillery emplacements in Al-Shabaniyah, Bshillama, 'Ayn Tura, Shanayh, Sharun, and Ba'lshmayh were damged. It was from these emplacements, along with others in Qurnayil, Salima, Kafr Silwan, and the Al-Za'rur hills, that shelling was directed at the mountain and coastal areas of Beirut, Al-Matn and Kasrawan. The range of fire was extended in the evening to include Al-Ashrafiyah and Al-Hazimiyah. Several people were killed or wounded as a result. Our correspondents report that in Al-Mudayrij an armored military convoy, along with its ammunition, received direct hits.

Syrians Shell Christian Areas

NC271817 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The straightforward, honest answer to those who are still wondering who has been, and still is, shelling the Christian residential areas is the following: It is the regular Syrian forces and their agents. They shelled the Kasrawan district and the coastal areas of Al-Matn a short while ago. The Syrians, who claim that they are working to end the state of war, are actively waging a war against the Christian community. They have been shedding Christian blood for 12 years and they are still playing their old game. Whenever they are under internal or regional pressure, they resort to launching a war against the Christians. That is what they are doing now, as a result of the Golan Heights situation and the internal problems they face.

A military source has issued the following statement: An anti-tank rocket was fired at a Lebanese Army armored personnel carrier on the Al-Dawwar front at noon today. It is known that the militias do not have such weapons. This means that regular forces are directly involved in the Lebanese war. Two army personnel were martyred in the rocket attack.

East Calm After Heavy Shelling

NC272153 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
2045 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The eastern areas have been quiet for the last 4 hours, following heavy attack from Syrian, nationalist, and leftist artillery and rocket launchers. Four people were killed and many others wounded; there was also serious material damage.

Hizballah Official Discusses Mideast Issues

NC271504 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Hizballah official Subhi al-Tufayli described West Beirut's strike force as lacking in both seriousness and effectiveness. In an interview in tomorrow's issue of *MAGAZINE*, he said that those who are supposed to be protecting the population in West Beirut are themselves responsible for the deterioration in security there. Al-Tafayli emphasized that Hizballah will not take part in this force until it is fully convinced its effectiveness.

In answer to a question on the issue of the hostages and missing persons in West Beirut, Al-Tufayli said that those under attack have a right to react. He assailed France and the United States for their support of Iraq, and declared that France had not acted correctly toward Iran. However, he denied any connection between Hizballah and Iran. He expressed the view that the Syrians are not planning to fight Hizballah because the latter's strategy is, in the end, compatible with Syria's. Finally, he stated that the Syrians know that Hizballah does not create problems.

Bank of Lebanon Decides To Devalue Pound

NC271402 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The governors of the Bank of Lebanon have decided to reduce the price of the Lebanese pound by 16.35 percent. The price of the U.S. dollar will, therefore, be between 22.5 and 23 pounds, an increase of 3.55 pounds. The average price will be 22.75 pounds, according to the Bank of Lebanon's bulletin.

Speaker Al-Husayni Returns From Rabat Visit

NC271833 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni was not surprised by Israel's actions. He has called for an escalation of resistance operations against Israel, stating that the only option for the Lebanese lies in a struggle against occupation, a commitment to international resolutions, and insistence on their implementation.

Speaker al-Husayni returned to Beirut today after visiting Rabat, where he took part in an Arab-African conference. He likened the Middle East to a volcano about to erupt, and added that Lebanon is part of this region.

Further Reaction Reported to U.S.-Libya Clashes

Support Sought From APU, Parliaments

JN271631 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi has sent cables to the Arab Parliamentary Union and Arab parliaments condemning and denouncing the U.S. aggression and the U.S. naval and air fleets' provocative acts off the Libyan Arab coast, such as the bombing of ships and the killing of their passengers and the shelling of positions on the Libyan mainland which resulted in human and material losses. These cables call for a united stand by the Arab parliaments expressing solidarity with fraternal Libya and making the aggressors realize that their aggression against our Arab nation will not go unpunished.

Al-Zu'bi also sent a cable to the IPU secretary general calling for the inclusion of the U.S. aggression against Libya on the agenda of the IPU conference to be held in Mexico in April. The cable was accompanied by a detailed memo on this subject to be circulated among all the world's parliaments to help include this subject at the Mexico conference so that a resolution will be adopted condemning this flagrant aggression.

Foreign Ministry Briefs Envoys

JN271343 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has summoned its ambassadors in India, the SFRY, Afghanistan, Iran, Indonesia, Pakistan, Vietnam, Cuba, Argentina, Greece, Cyprus, Italy, and Spain and acquainted them with the dimensions of the U.S. aggression on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and with its impact on the world security and peace. This aggression is considered a direct aggression against Syria and the Arab nation as well as a threat to all peace and freedom loving peoples. The ambassadors were also informed that the Syrian Government has decided to call for the convening of the UN Security Council to discuss the serious siutation stemming from this aggression and to take measures to deter it. The ambassadors were also requested to ensure that the countries to which they are assigned take part in the Security Council's debate, condemn the aggression and explain its dangers.

Speaker Steadfast With Counterpart

JN271355 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi has cabled the General People's Congress in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah affirming the People's Assembly's absolute solidarity with the fraternal Libyan Arab people in their heroic steadfastness against the pirates of the 20th century. The cable also stressed the assembly's denunciation of the treacherous U.S. aggression against Libya, an aggression against the Arab nation and a threat to security in the Mediterranean and to world peace.

A People's Assembly delegation led by Isma'il 'Abd al-Ghani, deputy chairman of the committee for Arab and foreign relations, and comprising a number of committee and People's Assembly members, this afternoon visited the Libyan Arab relations bureau in Damascus and submitted a copy of this cable to 'Abd al-Qadir al-Urfali, official in charge of the Libyan Arab Relations Bureau in Damascus.

Arab Will 'Strong, Firm'

JN271330 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] The current military, political, and moral battle in the Arab Gulf of Sidra is not only a battle over a piece of land or an expanse of water but is also part of a comprehenisve war that has been going on for some time between the Arab will, which desires liberation, emancipation, and the realization of pan-Arab rights, and the imperialist will, which endeavors to spread its influence and domination and impose racist, liquidationist plans in the region.

The Arab will, which today appears strong and firm over the waters of the Gulf of Sidra, derives its firmness and strength from the Arab masses, from the Arab nationalist and progressive forces led by Syria, and from the sincere friends in the socialist bloc and the Third World. The imperialist will and the U.S. war machine of aggression have this time chosen the Gulf of Sidra as an arena in which they can flex their military muscles and intensify their pressures on our Arab nation. Whether the United States chooses this gulf or any other Arab area, the Arab and world masses' stand on the U.S. aggression, parades, and threats will not change because the aims of the aggression are the same. They are based on the same strategy; namely, serving the Zionist plans, striking at the pan-Arab aspirations, disintegrating Arab resources, and imposing capitulation solutions and settlements on the Arabs.

What has been going on in the Gulf of Sidra for the past 4 days greatly reduces the status and the prestige of a superpower in this world, making it a side or a force that behaves recklessly and irresponsibly and which makes serious decisions without accurate calculations of the dire consequences that would arise from its actions.

As for us, we consider the U.S. reckless, aggressive, and adventurous behavior as natural and expected, whether this behavior occurs in the Gulf of Sidra, Lebanon, or any other Arab area. In our view all those who ally themselves with Zionism and use Israeli terms and phrases in the Middle East are bound to make such reckless decisions,issue empty threats, threaten direct military intervention, and come from the most distant point on the west of the globe to the nearest point on the east of the globe at a time when peoples have become capable of pushing the aggressive fleets and armies back to where they come from.

The sounds we hear from certain NATO countries in support of the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah is the sound of Zionism and defeated imperialism in many parts of the world.

The aggressors came to the Arab Gulf of Sidra to commit aggression, threaten, and brandish their weapons in order to frighten our Arab nation and its progressive forces. But they will go back in frustration. The Arab will, which triumphed against their aggression in more than one area, will triumph over them in the Gulf of Sidra because it is the will of the struggling masses of our people. Israel and Zionism will only reap what they reaped from previous abortive imperialist battles. We do not want to recall these battles because our enemies are perfectly aware of what the Arab resistance and steadfastness have done to their war machine, projects, and expansionist and liquidationist plans.

We are lying in wait for all our enemies. Our blows have been painful to them in the past and will be more painful to them now and in the future because we are defending just causes with all our firm determination. We will not stop until we have wrested victory and restored all the usurped Arab rights.

AL-BA'TH Assails U.S. 'Injustice'

JN271329 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 27 Mar 86

[From the Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Libya is not alone", the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* in its editorial says: Once again, the United States opens fire on our Arab homeland and has launched an armed aggression on the Libyan land and people. Some 2 years after the U.S. fragrant use of warships and fleets against Lebanon, Libya becomes the new target for the dirty U.S. military arm which has carried out the first round of the crimes of bombing, killing, and destruction against the Libyan coasts. While the new provocations in the Gulf of Sidra are a reminder of the crime of the Gulf of Tonkin which Washington used as a pretext for the military aggression on Vietnam, have the decision makers at the White House forgotten the results of the rude intervention in Vietnam and how Vietnam became a deep psychological complex causing the American people to reject any interference in others' affairs and to resist military involvement everywhere and for whatever reason?

AL-BA'TH wonders: How can the U.S. maneuvers be viewed in a good light while they coincide with the Israeli escalation of tension in the region and its direct threats to Syria? These maneuvers and this serious escalation cause tension, create a volatile atmosphere, and are a source of anxiety to the whole world. The United States imagines that its actions might direct attention away from Israel's aggressive preparation against Syria, leaving Israel free to carry out its premeditated strike in another direction.

The newspaper continues: These attempts will not succeed because Syria is vigilant, aware and has the ability and means to reply appropriately to any provocation or adventure. The U.S. Administration is mistaken if it imagines that the current Arab situation and the deteriorating Arab relations allow it to launch political and military attacks to impose its will and control. It is ignorance if the U.S. officials understand the Arab situation in this way. Recent and past experience proved that although the Arabs might differ on many issues they adopt a unified stand in confronting U.S.-Israeli aggression on any Arab country. The aggressive adventure against Libya is not supported by any Arab voice.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Libya is not and will not be alone because Syria, all Arab countries, and the forces of liberation and peace in the world are alongside Libya. Reagan is deluded if he considers directing a strike at Libya without creating a comprehensive explosion that would open more than one front against the U.S.-Israeli alliance and against all U.S. interests and relations. The fire of revolution is sweeping the Arab nation with unlimited speed and will not be affected by flowery words that try to ignore this fact. Only the United States will be fully responsible for its new aggressive adventure and for its grave consequences. Injustice always harms those who cause it.

USSR Claims No Knowledge of Syrian Military Group

GF271518 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Moscow]

[Text] *AL-ANBA'* has learned from Arab diplomatic sources that a high-ranking Syrian military delegation arrived in Moscow 2 days ago. However, the sources did not disclose the type of mission the delegation was making on this visit.

In reply to a question by *AL-ANBA'* on the truth of this information, official Soviet spokesman Valeriy Sukhin said that the press department at the USSR Foreign Ministry has no knowledge of this.

Another Round of Tabah Talks Ends Without Progress

TA271825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Report by Aharon Barne'a]

[Text] Another round of talks between Israel and Egypt on the issue of the arbitration over Tabah and the resumption of the normalization between the two countries has ended in Tel Aviv, and the bottom line is that no progress was made. The delegations decided to hold a brief meeting in Cairo next week. There is still no decision to pass the final decision on the more difficult issues, over which there is no agreement between Israel and Egypt, to the political echelons.

We have learned that in the last meeting held in Cairo last week some progress was made, because both Israel and Egypt favored a U.S. compromise proposal. However, in the current round of talks held in Tel Aviv, the Egyptians went back on their agreement of last week and hardened their position somewhat.

The last session, which was held this afternoon, was very short. One of the two Israeli delegation heads, David Kimche, the director general of the Foreign Ministry, did not even attend this meeting. On the central issues, regarding the most difficult problem, which is what questions will be posed by the two sides to the arbiter, there is no agreement and no progress, and these issues will be pursued in Cairo next week.

Talks 'on Verge' of Deadlock

TA270859 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The talks between the Israeli and Egyptian teams of directors general on settling the Tabah crisis are on the verge of a deadlock. The Egyptian delegation reneged on its decision to agree to the U.S. compromise proposal on the formulation of the question to be submitted to the arbiter concerning the placement of the border stones.

Upon the resumption of the talks yesterday in Tel Aviv, it became apparent to the heads of the Israeli delegation — Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, and Dr David Kimche, the director general of the Foreign Ministry — that the heads of the Egyptian delegation had reverted back to examining Egyptian versions of the question to be put to the arbiter in spite of the fact that these had been rejected outright during earlier rounds of talks in Cairo and Herzliyya.

Tamir Maintains Progress Made

TA280615 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Avraham Tamir, head of the Tabah talks delegation, countered statements Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir made yesterday — that no progress was made in the talks with Egypt — by saying that remarkable progress could be observed, and that the situation must not be termed "critical." He noted at the same time that several issues will most probably be brought to the political echelon for a decision, "but this should not be regarded as a catastrophe." Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is demanding an urgent Inner Cabinet session on the matter for fear that Egypt's domestic woes may adversely affect chances of improving bilateral relations in the absence of an agreement on the arbitral compromis.

The eighth round of talks ended yesterday, and in light of developments in the subcommittee dealing with the formulation of the arbitral compromis, it was decided to hold another round of talks in Cairo with the participation of lawyers from both sides. Tamir, who will accompany the prime minister to the United States, will not participate in this round, and it looks as though Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche will also not attend. It is believed that this will be the last round before the dispute is brought before the Inner Cabinet.

Shamir Comments on Katyusha Attack, Tabah Talks

TA271150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the IDF has the means to prevent the terrorists from striking at the northern settlements. Yitzhaq Shamir considers the National Resistance Front responsible for the attack on the Galilee Panhandle, and has issued a warning to its members. Yitzhaq Shamir was in Migdal Ha'emeq today where he attended a memorial service for Ronen Malka, a soldier who fell in the Lebanese war. He also toured the moshav of Alon Hagalil. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports from there:

[Begin recording] [Zohar] Symbolically, on the day when residents of Qiryat Shemona were injured from katyusha rocket fire, a memorial service was held in Migdal Ha'emeq for Ronen Malka who was killed in a clash with a terrorist squad in the security zone. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said at the memorial service that the peace that Israel wanted to attain in the area where Ronen was killed has been maliciously torn to shreds by the National Resistance Front in Lebanon. Yitzhaq Shamir issued a warning to this movement, which he also considers responsible for the firing of katyusha rockets this morning.

[Shamir] The IDF and the State of Israel are doing and will do everything to bring these attacks to an end before they increase. We have the means to do this and prevent these criminal attacks from recurring. We have heard that these acts are being perpetrated by what is called in Lebanon the National Resistance Movement. This distorted resistance movement that fights and harms the interests of the residents of Lebanon must be prevented from continuing its activity.

[Zohar] Do you mean even beyond the method currently employed — that is, the security zone?

[Shamir] The IDF will find the most suitable way to put an end to these terrorist acts.

[Zohar] On another issue — the Tabah talks — the foreign minister said that if the sides do not reach agreement today, the parties may have to consider other ways to resolve the Tabah question.

[Shamir] I do not know what they will decide this evening. Either they will see a chance for the continuation of the talks in the form they have taken so far, or perhaps they will take a break in order to transfer the decision on the continuation to the Israeli and Egyptian Governments. [end recording]

Peres Demands Coalition Unity in State Budget Vote

TA271014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has informed the coalition that he firmly demands that all members without exception vote for the state budget when it comes to the vote on Monday; otherwise the government will cease to exist. He emphasized that the arguments must stop because the people ought to know what they are to expcet this year. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Mr Peres was speaking at a meeting of the coalition members in the Knesset.

Rabin Says IDF To Pursue Terrorists 'Everywhere'

TA271830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1730 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin visited the town of Shelomi in the western Galilee this afternoon. He said that the IDF will continue to pursue the terrorists and will catch them in the end. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar brings an excerpt of the defense minister's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] I believe that in the 9 or 10 months which have passed since the IDF implemented the government's decision and completed its redeployment, we were able — not without difficulties and casualties in the IDF — to reach our goal, to provide security for our border settlements and the residents of the north. I believe that we will succeed in demonstrating to those who live in southern Lebanon that they will not be able to lead normal lives if we cannot live normally here, in demonstrating to the terrorist organizations that we will give them no freedom of action. We will search for them and pursue them everywhere, and we will catch them. [end recording]

Herzog, Wilner Meet, Discuss Israel-USSR Relations

TA280850 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] President Hayim Herzog yesterday talked with the HADASH secretary, Knesset Member [MK] Me'ir Wilner, on the possibility of a renewal of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union.

During the meeting, which was held at the president's residence at Herzog's initiative, MK Wilner, who recently returned from Moscow where he participated the the CPSU Congress, said that in his opinion chances for a change in the Kremlin's attitude toward Israel exist only if Israel agrees to an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of PLO representatives.

The president's spokesman, 'Ami Glusqa, said last night that the meeting between Herzog and MK Wilner was held in the framework of the meetings the president is holding with the leaders of the Knesset factions. According to him, this is not the first time the president has met with MK Wilner.

Lubrani on UNIFIL, Terrorism in S. Lebanon

TA280717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Regarding developments in the north, what is more worrisome than a katyusha hitting a school is that IDF officers in the north are saying that it is not clear for the moment whether there has been a change in the terrorists' policy in southern Lebanon. Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, has said that despite the katyusha firing, our element of deterrence has been preserved. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is in the studio:

The security establishment is keeping a worried watch over the strengthening of the terrorists in the western sector, as well as elsewhere, and the demand is also being made to make it clear to the terrorists and the inhabitants of the south that Israel will not permit them to become any stronger. The IDF is also keeping an interested watch over the terrorists' attempts to launch katyushas. The assumption is that they will act whenever they can and that yesterday's firing does not signal a change in this policy.

The coordinator of the government's activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, says the fact that the terrorists are firing katyushas does not mean they are no longer afraid of a reaction.

[Begin Lubrani recording] In my opinion, an Israeli deterrent factor exists. The residents of southern Lebanon — I am not speaking about the security zone, but about the inhabitants of southern Lebanon — know very well that if Israel reacts on a massive scale, there will be great destruction there. There are certainly elements who are interested in preventing hostile activity against us from within this area. The trouble is that these elements are incapable of controlling the entire area. If it turns out that we cannot maintain a normal life along our northern border, I am very much afraid that the people in southern Lebanon will have to realize that they cannot maintain normal lives either. [end recording]

[Tal] Uri Lubrani says there is a UNIFIL force positioned in the area from which yesterday's katyusha was fired. The international force must show greater involvement in preventing acts of terrorism.

[Begin Lubrani recording] We know that UNIFIL's ability has great limitations, but the fact is that yesterday's firing came from an area which was once included in the security zone. At a certain

stage last summer it was transferred; the army of southern Lebanon left the area and it was handed over to the local inhabitants, on the assumption that they would see to it that there would not be any actions against us from that area. It is a fact that there is activity against us, and that the area was once inside the security zone and is now outside the security zone, with UNIFIL positioned there. [end recording]

UNIFIL Protests Remarks

TA281227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The UN headquarters in southern Lebanon is protesting fiercely about remarks made by the coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, which linked the Irish battalion with the katyusha rocket that fell on Qiryat Shemona yesterday. This morning Lubrani commented that the rocket had been fired from an area in which a unit of Irish soldiers is positioned. One of the commanders of the Irish battalion told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that this is a groundless slander and his country's Ministry of Defense has promised him to submit a sharp diplomatic protest to Israel.

Israeli security establishment sources have explained that Lubrani's remarks were not aimed against the Irish battalion, but against the UN force's mandate, which keeps the force from acting even when its soldiers uncover terrorist actions being organized.

Yahad-Labor Unification Moves Allegedly Halted

TA271903 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] 'Ezer Weizman and leaders of the Yahad political party have decided to stop their moves toward unification with the Labor Party, this according to a Voice of Israel reporter. The unification was due to take place before the Labor Party conference in 2 weeks' time. Members of Yahad have asked for a postponement until the future of the rotation agreement between Prime Minister Peres and Vice Premier Shamir becomes clear.

Arms-Laden Ship Loaded in Ashdod Detained in Crete

TA280528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] A ship carrying arms, ammunition, and a helicopter from Israel to Portugal has been detained in Crete according to reports from Greece. The reports say the captain told authorities the weapons were loaded in Ashdod. The ship's papers showed its destination as Portugal, Guatemala, and several South American countries. On board were 280 tons of ammunition and explosives, 24 submachineguns, and a helicopter. The ship was detained after Greek Coast Guard members saw crew members painting over the name of the vessel.

Israeli defense sources say the matter is under investigation.

Defense Sources Purport Arms Legal

TA280858 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 28 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by Hayim Ravya, and REUTER]

[Excerpts] Greek authorities yesterday detained a ship that was on its way from Israel to Latin America carrying a cargo purchased in Israel that included a helicopter, submachineguns, and explosives. The police are interrogating the ship's Greek captain and its crew, which includes seven Turks, one Austrian, and three Filipinos.

It emerges from an investigation conducted by the Israeli defense establishment that the military equipment found on board the ship had been sold legally, and was accompanied by all the necessary documents. Sources in the defense establishment said that it is not clear why the seamen were trying to change the name of the ship.

The ship, which weighs 3,000 tons, is registered in the Cayman Islands, and is owned by a Haifa company.

Sharon Transfers $30 Million to Judaea, Samaria

TA280550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The Knesset Finance Committee has permitted Minister of Trade Ari'el Sharon to transfer $30 million from a budget allocated to development areas to a budget for Judaea and Samaria. Labor-Alignment members of the Finance Committee tried to prevent this, but the decision was passed by the committee four votes to two.

ASL Forces Searching for Katyusha Attackers

TA271522 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1414 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL] forces this afternoon returned fire toward the area from which the katyusha was fired at Qiryat Shemona. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz was told by Lebanese sources that the ASL soldiers are conducting searches in southern Lebanon in a bid to apprehend the terrorists who launched the rocket.

Bomb Explosion Kills ASL Soldier, Wounds Another

TA280927 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0924 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] This morning a soldier from the army of southern Lebanon was killed and another soldier was wounded in a roadside bomb explosion near the village of Al-Tayibah in the security zone in Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that several more roadside bombs were discovered in the course of searches.

Security Forces Detain 2 Nabulus Students
TA280814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] During the night two students from the Nabulus Al-Najah University were put under administrative detention. This has been reported by our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria Arye Gus. One of the detainees is Khalil Ibrahim Hasan (al-Shur), chairman of the university student union. Security sources have told our correspondent that the detainees are activists in the Fatah organization. Our correspondent adds that the security forces have made many preventive detentions in preparation for Land Day in order to prevent disruptions to the peace the day after tomorrow, 30 March.

Court Sentences Two Terrorists to Life in Prison
TA271511 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1443 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The military court in Gaza today sentenced two Gaza terrorists to life imprisonment. The two, Mattar al-Hur and Abu Jum'a, were members of a Fatah ring responsible for the murder of two Israelis, Salomon Abu Qassis and Menahem Dadon, in 1983. Our correspondent Ilan ben-Dor reports that in their trial the two terrorists admitted the charges and did not voice any regrets. The ring had been operating in the Gaza Strip from 1982 until it was uncovered by the security forces at the end of November 1985.

ALGERIA

APS Reports Bendjedid Talks With Gorbachev

LD271122 Algiers APS in English 1030 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 27/03/86 (APS) — On the second day of his official visit to the Soviet Union, President Chadli [Bendjedid] held tete-a-tete talks with the secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev. Later, the talks were enlarged to bring in the two delegations.

The two sides exchanged views on the socio-economic development process in both countries in the light of the F.L.N. party extraordinary congress and the 27th congress of the Soviet Communist Party. The two sides voiced satisfaction over the development of bilateral cooperation. They expressed willingness to further strengthen relations and contemplated new cooperation prospects.

The two delegations took stock of the international situation and analyzed the causes of tension in the world. They further examined regional conflicts particularly in Africa, the Middle-East, the Gulf region and the Mediterranean. The two sides also surveyed the world economic situation.

Parallel to these talks, encounters took place at the ministerial level. In this respect, Foreign Affairs minister, Dr Ahmed Taleb [Ibrahimi] conferred with his Soviet counterpart, Shevardnadze. Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi held talks with the Soviet Industry Oil and Gas minister [as received], Mr Chirskov.

Finance minister and co-president of the Joint Algero-Soviet Commission conferred with Mr Katochev, head of the State Commission for External Economic Relations and co-chairman of the Joint Algero-Soviet Commission.

Abderrezak Bouhara, member of the Permanent Secretariat in charge of external relations and Abdelaziz Ziari, head of the People's National Assembly Commission for Education, Culture and Social Affairs also held talks with their counterparts in the Soviet government.

Foreign Minister's Statement

LD272104 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Mar 86

["Statement" by Algerian Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi to unidentified radio correspondent in Moscow; date not specified -- recorded]

[Text][Words indistinct] the Soviet Union has now been crowned with the signing of a long-term agreement (?which defines) the landmarks of the history of Algerian-Soviet cooperation [words indistinct] and defines the sectors of this cooperation, particularly energy, iron and steel, [words indistinct] and scientific research. The document signed by the brother president with Mr Gorbachev entails two agreements: The first is an economic agreement signed by the brother finance minister with his Soviet counterpart [words indistinct] containing the Soviet Union's (?participation) in the completion of several projects within Algeria's development plan. There is another agreement — which is political — which aims at organizing consultations between the two foreign ministers. In fact, this agreement [words indistinct] consultations [words indistinct] and complements the protocol of agreement on consultation and cooperation between the FLN Party and the CPSU. These are the three agreements which were signed today.

As for the talks, they were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation. The brother president and Mr Gorbachev [words indistinct] total readiness and understanding. The talks dealt with bilateral relations in many spheres — economic, technical, and military. They also dealt with international issues, including the Middle East, Africa, [words indistinct]. With regard to the Middle East, the two sides reaffirmed [words indistinct]. The talks also dealt with the [words indistinct] the Iraq-Iran war [words indistinct] particularly what is taking place in southern Africa. The two sides reaffirmed their solidarity with the liberation movements in Namibia and southern Africa, and with the confrontation states. They decided to cooperate in preparations for the next session of the United Nations devoted to economic problems in Africa. As for the question of the Sahara, the two sides reaffirmed their support for the UN [word indistinct] resolution which calls on both sides engaged in the fighting in our Arab Maghreb to conduct negotiations in order to arrive at a peaceful solution for this war. [passage indistinct]

Relations Termed 'Excellent'

LD280428 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The 3d day of the official visit by brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and secretary general of the party, and the delegation accompanying him to the Soviet Union has been marked by the holding of private talks between the president and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, and by the signing in the Kremlin of a long-term program for economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation.

On his part, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, signed with Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart, a protocol concerning Algerian-Soviet consultations.

An agreement on economic cooperation was signed by Mr Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and by brother Abdelaziz Khellef, finance minister. The signing ceremony was attended by Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union and member of the Politburo; Nikolay Ryzhkov, Soviet prime minister and member of the Politburo, together with several other CPSU leaders.

It is worth mentioning that the talks by the members of the two delegations were devoted to a review of the world situation, particularly issues of common interest. Both sides examined the tense situation in the world, and during their detailed study of the situation in the Middle East they stressed that any search for a just and lasting peace must include the full participation of the

PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, so that they may exercise their right to self-determination and to setting up their own independent state.

In studying the situation in South Africa, the two sides expressed their support for the struggle being waged by the South African and Namibian peoples and condemned the threats to neighboring countries. They also discussed the economic difficulties faced by Africa.

Concerning bilateral relations, both sides noted with satisfaction the excellent state of Algerian-Soviet relations of friendship and cooperation, and voiced a common desire to deepen them in all areas.

Prime Minister Views Joint Projects With Libya

LD271026 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi will talk about the economic cooperation sectors which the Algerian-Libyan talks dealt with, and why Algeria is committed to regional economic integration:

[Begin Brahimi recording] There was joint agreement on establishing coordination between the central planning bodies of the two countries in order to compare the content of development plans for the two countries and define fields of possible cooperation. We also decided to set up a certain number of joint companies. I can mention for example the creation of a joint geophysics company which will be active in both countries, particularly in Libya. We also decided to set up a joint hydrocarbon research and prospecting company, a joint hydraulic drilling company, as well as a joint construction company.

We also accepted the Libyan proposal to build jointly a gas pipeline between Algeria and Libya to supply our fraternal, neighboring country with natural gas for domestic use in Tripoli and other towns [words indistinct] as well as for industrial consumption. [end recording]

PDRY Foreign Minister Brings Message for Bendjedid

LD271817 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party and foreign minister arrived in Algiers tonight.

He was welcomed on arrival at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Salah Sadek Zouaten, member of the Permanent Secretariat of the party's Central Committee in charge of friendship and solidarity with peoples, and a number of senior officials from the Foreign Ministry.

The Yemeni foreign minister explained in a statement to the press that he is carrying a message from the Yemeni president to President Chadli Benjedid.

Qatari Paper: Preparations for Possible Israeli Raid

GF270924 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 27 Mar (QNA) — Press reports in Doha today say that Algeria has adopted a number of security measures following the Israeli raid on Tunisia, and following information that indicates that the Israeli enemy intends to make a similar strike on Algerian territory.

The Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH* says that Algeria has discussed this matter with Arab parties including the PLO, some of whose forces are stationed in Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia, in view of the joint borders among them.

The newspaper adds that along with these preparations, Algeria has redeployed the Palestinian forces in eastern Algeria to other areas in the south and west which are beyond the reach of the Israeli Air Force. Algeria also has contacted a number of European countries, primarily France, in order to purchase modern radar that is capable of covering all its territory. A sophisticated French radar system has been chosen and will arrive in Algeria shortly.

The paper points out that Algeria has established a joint military operations room with Libya in order to exchange information and monitor the shores and airspace near the two countries.

Algeria also has sought to strengthen its air defense system by purchasing modern Soviet SAM missiles in order to defend its strategic targets and important areas.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi To Hold News Conference 28 Mar

NC281213 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will hold a news conference today. The time and place of the conference have not yet been disclosed.

Libyan spokesman Mustafa Sadiq said that this will be Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's first meeting with journalists since the United States withdrew from the Gulf of Sidra.

Sadiq refused to give the time and place of the press conference. Col al-Qadhdhafi often changes his mind at the last minute when appearing in public. It has been claimed that the Libyan leader will sail on a Libyan gunboat in the Gulf of Sidra to ridicule the departing U.S. fleet.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Syria's Al-Asad Discuss Situation

LD271417 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was in telephone contact this morning with the brother leader of the revolution to learn more on the situation regarding the confrontation with the United States.

VOGAH Commentary on Victory Over Imperialism
LD271717 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] In their efforts to dominate the world and create colonial empires, the colonialist powers pay no regard to the rights of peoples to live freely. Indeed, they act as though these peoples do not exist or if they do, they do not deserve to be alive and should merely be consumers of the colonial powers' manufactured goods and providers of the raw materials for the colonial powers' industries. As a result of their fight for domination, the colonial powers sparked off two frightful world wars from 1914-18 and from 1939-45. Before and after these two major wars, they also sparked off several other wars no less frightful than the two world wars.

Although the allies were victorious over Germany in World War II, they were also exhausted. This paved the way for another imperialist power, the United States, to enter the field of rivalry with the traditional colonial powers over domination and the spreading of influence. The discovery of strategic oil resources in the Middle East prompted the United States to throw its entire weight into this rivalry and it succeeded in becoming the leader of the imperialist colonialist powers that were exhausted by World War II. Thus, the United States gained more than one foothold in Arab lands, if not through direct occupation in the form of military bases, then by means of agent regimes. The United States thus gained bases in the Libyan Arab territory alongside the British military bases.

However, on one of the great moments of destiny, on 1 September, 1969, the idols fell and the agent Sinousi regime collapsed. The British and U.S. bases could not save their agent, Idris Sinousi and his regime, from the revolution of the triumphant people. The expulsion of the British and U.S. military bases from the Libyan Arab territory followed immediately and the Italian community, the last vestige of the fascist invaders, was expelled.

Today, the Libyan Arab people are free people and masters. They are the only people in the world who celebrate three evacuation anniversaries every year: the British bases, the U.S. bases, and the last vestiges of the fascist Italians.

U.S. and British rancor against the Arab people of the Jamahiriyah is due to the triumph of the Arab people of the Jamahiriyah over Britain and France, which led to the eviction of the British and American military bases from the Libyan Arab territory. This rancor was vented by Britain in the form of alignment with U.S. terrorism and repeated harrassment of Libyan Arab students in Britain and also in the form of venomous propaganda campaigns. American rancor vented itself in the form of military provocations and attempts at military and political blockade of the people of the Jamahiriyah.

But the master and sovereign people, who are aware that the task of safeguarding freedom is no less costly than the attainment to freedom, have prepared themselves to defend their freedom. Thus the Arab people of the Jamahiriyah became an armed people and took full and direct control, without proxy, for the defense of their land and gains. For they possess the wealth, the authority, and the arms.

The people are happy today to see how their persistent efforts to transform themselves into an armed people have been justified and necessary. They have scored a glittering victory over the imperialist invaders in the Gulf of Death -- the Gulf of Sidra -- and have risen to the level of being able to match a superpower, the United States of America, which they fought and triumphed over. Their threats to the invaders are now taken seriously because the Libyan people have, in all the decisive situations, been the master whose deeds precede their words.

The people who celebrate three evacuation days every year, cannot ever allow their land to be disgraced by any power in the world. They are determined to defend their land and water, just as they are determined to defend freedom everywhere in the world in line with their pledges to this effect in the document on the proclamation of the people's authority and the establishment of the first Jamahiriyah in history and in the world.

Firmness, Defiance 'Compelled' U.S. To Withdraw
LD272154 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2008 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] AP, AFP, and London radio reported that orders have been issued to the U.S. 6th Fleet to cancel the military exercises opposite the Libyan coast. JANA's political editor commented on this by saying that the orders cancelling the U.S. military exercises opposite the Libyan coast, which were issued by the Pentagon, cannot be interpreted in any other way than that the officials of the U.S. War Ministry [as heard] found themselves compelled to take this decision in view of the firmness of the Libyan Arab attitude and the brave defiance which was translated into acute military confrontation which the Americans did not take into account. They were pushed into a situation whereby continuation of these exercises, as planned, became difficult.

The editor added: The pro-Libyan Arab stance taken by the entire world against the U.S. aggression and provocations had a decisive effect on the cancellation of these exercises. Demonstrations were staged all over the world — beginning in Washington and California, the birthplace of the terrorist Reagan, and then in the entire northern hemisphere — in Paris, Bonn, London, Rome, Athens, Nicosia, Valetta, Prague, Montreal, Madrid, Canberra and from there to the southern hemisphere where the masses marched on the U.S. Embassies in Damascus, Aden, and Karachi to declare their denunciation, defiance, and rejection of the arrogance of the U.S. aggressors. In fact, this denunciation was transformed into acts of violence against the American presence everywhere as the U.S. Embassies in Beirut, Athens, Tokyo, Karachi, and Lahore were shelled.

The JANA political editor concluded his comment by saying: This stance by the peoples of the world against the American attack reaffirms our legitimate sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra and is a mass international decision acknowledging our sovereignty of this gulf and our right to regard the gulf as part of

Libyan territorial waters. We have thus said and always say: We will die in defense of the Gulf of Sidra.

Tunisian Revolutionaries To Strike U.S. Interests

LD280535 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0327 GMT 28 Mar 86

["Message of support" by unidentified spokesman for the Tunisian revolutionary force — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother leader of the 1 September Revolution: Greetings of the revolution and revolutionaries. We, the Tunisian revolutionary force abroad, (?will carry out) the incitation for the destruction of U.S. interests wherever they might be. We declare that we are at your disposal and ready to become suicide squads for blowing up the Reagan fleet, the enemy of the Arab nation, and to color the Gulf of Sidra red with our blood. The fate of anyone who tries to cross into the Gulf of Sidra is death. March forward. The revolutionary and unitary struggle is continuing.

[Signed] The Tunisian Revolutionary (?Force)

Arabs Masses Urged To Destroy U.S. Interests

LD280215 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0149 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The destruction of U.S. interest and targets in the Arab homeland is the responsibility of the Arab masses in every Arab country on whose land these interests and targets exist. It is unreasonable and shames Arab honor that U.S. interests should have any sanctity in any Arab country as long as the United States is committing an aggression against an Arab country. In order for the United States to understand that it can never attack any Arab country isolated from the others, all Arabs everywhere in the Arab homeland should be indignant and angry and suicide cells should destroy U.S. interests whenever the United States commits an aggression against an Arab country.

The U.S. aggression against the people of the Jamahiriyah, which was confronted by the armed people in the Jamahiriyah, should have been strongly confronted by the whole Arab nation. News agencies should have reported urgent cables from all the Arab capitals about the destruction of U.S. interests and about a popular flood throughout the Arab homeland pouring its wrath on Americans, because none of them is an innocent visitor; they are on a spying or sabotage mission in the Arab homeland.

Madrid Embassy: U.S. Fears 'Possible Reprisals'

AU271647 Paris AFP in English 1642 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Madrid, March 27 (AFP) — The United States ended its exercises in the Gulf of Sidra where there were clashes this week between U.S. and Libyan forces, out of fear of "possible reprisals", a Libyan Embassy statement said here Thursday. It said Washington was afraid of "possible reprisals" against "Yankee interests in the world." And also that the decision was taken because of the "firm attitude of the Libyan people and our leader, to defend, whatever the cost, its territory, its independence and its revolution." The embassy also highlighted "the international solidarity of people who have not hesitated to call this shameful and unjustified aggression as an imperialist act."

U.S. forces hit four Libyan boats and raided a Libyan missile base Monday and Tuesday, after the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al- Qadhdhafi has called the "line of death", into the Gulf of Sidra, which is claimed by Tripoli as territorial waters. Pentagon officials said the 6th Fleet will remain nearby in the central Mediterranean Sea for some days yet.

Reportage, Commentary on Events in Gulf of Sidra

U.S. Planes Downed

GF271330 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 26 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Tripoli — Ibrahim Saqr, director of the Foreign Information Department at the Libyan Information Secretariat has affirmed that Libyan air defense forces downed three U.S. fighters 2 days ago. He confirmed that all the pilots of these fighters were killed.

In statement to *AL-KHALIJ*, Saqr said that Soviet warships in the Mediterranean near the zone of clashes confirmed the downing of the U.S. fighters. Saqr revealed that U.S. fighters yesterday tried to infiltrate through civilian air corridors, but the Libyan air defense forces discovered the attempt and confronted the U.S. fighters forcing them to retreat.

Saqr has affirmed Libya's determination to confront U.S. aggression and all provocations regardless of the sacrifices. He added that the U.S. aggression is not only designed against Libya but against the entire Arab nation.

The Libyan official has ridiculed the U.S. complaints to the United Nations, adding that the rudeness of the aggressors does not stop them from issuing such complaints to cover up their aggression. Saqr praised the Italian stance, calling it a positive one, because they are affirming that the U.S. maneuvers are a stark violation of international law.

The Libyan official expected the emergence of a clear Arab stand today to denounce the U.S. aggression. He said: What is required is a serious stand against the U.S. crusade of aggression.

Spanish Tanker Rescues Seamen

LD280934 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0910 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Madrid, 28 Mar (JANA) — The Spanish Paper *EL PAIS* yesterday reported that a Spanish oil tanker was able to rescue 16 Libyan seamen whose ship was attacked by U.S. aircraft on 25 March. [date as received] *EL PAIS* said that the Spanish tanker *Castillo de Ricote* picked up the seamen from a lifeboat they were in and took them to Tripoli last Wednesday.

'Barbarians' Graveyard'

LD271502 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1254 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] O great masses, the American barbarians are giving us our historic opportunity to avenge all tribulations and calamities, to avenge 'Attiqa [girl killed in demonstrations at former U.S. base in Libya and for whom the base was subsequently named], Sabra and Shatila, Dayr Yasin and the children of Bahr al-Baqar school, the children of Tunisia, the widows of Grenada, and the orphans of Chile. They are giving us the historic opportunity to prove to them that the strength of the living nation is capable of confrontation and triumph. Those barbarians are trying to challenge the Green [Book] concept, namely, happiness, freedom, and rejoicing. But they are giving us the opportunity to present to our beloved ones earrings made from the frames of their crows [aircraft] and to manufacture for our children toys made from the pieces of their burned-out planes. These American barbarians are giving us the opportunity to put an end to their arrogance, haughtiness, and impudence, and to do away with the myth of a superpower which intimidates peoples and is governed by the bloody madness of a failing actor and clown and an enemy of mankind's freedom and happiness. The Vietnamese people rubbed the nose of this superpower in the dirt, and the Libyan Arabs will cut off this nose in the Gulf of Sidra. These cowboys are giving us the opportunity to reply to all their insults against the Arab nation and are presenting us with the historic opportunity to liquidate their lackeys and puppets in the Arab homeland. The fate of the *Coral Sea* will be the same as that of the *Philadelphia*; just as the Libyan Arabs installed the mast of the *Philadelphia* over Government House in Tripoli; we will push the gun of the *Coral Sea* through the eye of the Statue of Liberty.

The barbarians who have not learned the lessons of the Bay of Pigs will learn their lessons in the Gulf of Sidra. They will then realize that the Libyan Arabs do not fight like heroes; instead heroes fight like Libyan Arabs. The barbarians do not know that the honor of revolutionaries comes from their weapons and principles and that revolutionaries do not fight for concessions or gains but for the honor of an entire nation. They fight to protect a civilization and values that are not familiar to the cowboys; they die standing up, like the palm trees in the Arab desert. The barbarians are not aware that all the Mediterranean basin cultures have passed through our soil, but none of them have succeeded in leaving their prints on our people, because the Arab women beyond the Atlas mountains call their children Khalid, while their sisters on the peaks of the Golan Heights call their children Saladin. Barbarians in the Gulf of Sidra, welcome to your graveyard.

Continuing Reportage on Messages of Support

Gorbachev Statement Viewed

LD272201 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2055 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The General People's Committee for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has expressed its support for the statements made by Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, concerning all fleets in the Mediterranean. In a statement issued today the committee said that it sees the Soviet proposals as a condemnation of the presence of the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean and an exposure of the U.S. role in defending the Zionist entity and threatening the security and peace of small states.

The statement confirmed that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, while expressing its support for this call, urges the countries of the region to support this proposal and take the steps necessary to implement it. It said that this proposal is in harmony with the initiatives which the Jamahiriyah and other countries in the Mediterranean have made to turn the the Mediterranean into a lake of peace, security, and cooperation for the progress of the countries overlooking it, exploiting its wealth and potential in the interests of its peoples.

Iranian Commander

LD281022 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps commander, Mohsen Rafiqdust, has stressed that defending the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra from U.S. attack should be considered a duty of all Arab and islamic countries. In a message to Brigadier Abu Bakir Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief, he said that Iran will stand beside the Libyan Arab people with all its capabilities in its sacred duty to defend Libya on the basis of the fraternal relations that link the two brotherly peoples in Libya and Iran. The message said that the United States was playing with fire and that its interests were exposed to danger throughout the world.

Palestinian Official

LD281131 Tripoli JANA in English 0915 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Mar (JANA) — Tal'at Ya'qub, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, has sent a cable to the brother leader of the revolution regarding the U.S. attack on the Gulf of Sidra. He states that the Libyan Arab people, by bravely repulsing the attack, have strengthened the Palestinian people's steadfasness and struggle against imperialism and Zionism. The cable continues: In the name of the Central Committee and the Palestinian Liberation Front cadres and fighters I would like to express our firm and unlimited stand with your struggle against U.S. imperialism. We salute your brave and heroic leadership in our battle against the common imperialist enemy... the enemy of all struggling peoples. He also congratulated the Libyan Arab people and their revolutionary leadership on the 16th anniversary of expelling the British military bases in Libya and liberating its soil from the paws of colonialists.

Chadian Liberation Army Chief

LD281034 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] The commander in chief of the Chadian National Army of Liberation, Adoum Yacoub, has sent a cable to Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed

Forces, in which he highly praised the Libyan Arab people's brave repulsing of the U.S. attack. In his message he said: Your brave repulsing of aggressors will be a hard lesson for them and all those who attempt to harm Libya's freedom and sovereignty.

Chadian GUNT Leader

LD280948 Tripoli JANA in English 0924 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 17, March 28, JAMAHAIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution has received a telegram from Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Chad's legitimate Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) and chairman of the Supreme Council of Revolution. It reads:

'On behalf of GUNT, the Supreme Coucnil of Revolution and the national army for the liberation of the Chadian struggling people, we announce to you that we stand by you and by the brave Libyan Arab People against U.S. aggression on Al-Jamahiriyah territorial waters and space sphere. We believe that under your leadership the Libyan Arab people is capable of teaching U.S. imperialism a lesson it won't forget and will be routed and sustained for ever a defeat. Death and destruction to imperialism. Victory to the revolutionary force.

SDAR President

LD271747 Tripoli JANA in English 0816 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 16, MARS.27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the Revolution received a cable from Mohamed Abdelaziz [president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic] declaring his full solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in its brave confrontation with U.S. aggression. He said: "We are sure that the grandsons of Omar al-Mukhtar — as we known them — will achieve victory over the Arab nation's enemies."

Palestinian Women in SFRY

LD280451 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0245 GMT 28 Mar 86

["Message of support" by unidentified spokeswomen of the Palestinian Arab Women's Revolutionary Force in Yugoslavia — live or recorded]

[Text] Brother [words indistinct] leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, may God preserve him for the sake of the Arabs and pan-Arabism. Fighting U.S. imperialism and international Zionism is an honor worthy only of a revolutionary free Arab who believes in the liberation of Palestine and Arab unity. We will always be with you in confronting the biggest and only enemy — the United States. This should be the aim of every honorable Arab who believes in pan-Arabism. May God preserve you as a unionist pan-Arab model.

[Signed] The Palestinian Arab Women's Revolutionary Force in Yugoslavia

Students in Nicosia

LD271444 Tripoli JANA in English 1405 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Nicosia, Rajab 16, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Arab colonies, revolutionary forces and students, males and females, of the Green March School in Nicosia took to the streets yesterday morning in a demonstration of anger and challenge against U.S aggression against the people of Al-Jamahiriyah. The demonstrations raised the photographs of the leader of the revolution and banners condemning this aggressions and stressing that Sidra Gulf is Libyan Arab and is the line of death. In front of U.S Embassy there, which was heavily guarded they also chanted "Down with U.S Imperialism".

They also distributed a statement in freedom roundabouts emphasizing that Sidra Gulf is Libyan Arab and is the line of death. The statement also points out that Al-Jamahiriyah has a right to legitimately defend itself to strike at positions of aggression and its bases anywhere. The statement has called on Arab masses to start forthwith to wreck U.S interests in the Arab homeland so as to make the whole world realize that we have not gone to the coasts of USA to launch an aggression on it, but USA has left its own coasts and seas and have deliberately come here to strike at a peaceful people that develops itself and stands by the peoples that struggle for their freedom.

The demonstrators have also sent the leader of the revolution a telegram, emphasizing their readiness to take any action against U.S. imperialism - the enemy of the peoples everywhere. The telegram has lauded the firm stand of the Libyan Arab people against U.S aggression, stressing that victory is close at hand and that revolutionary sacred struggle is continuing until freedom triumphs worldwide.

Demonstrations at U.S. Embassies

LD271529 Tripoli JANA in English 1425 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli Rajab 16, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Arab popular masses yesterday went out in demonstrations of anger and defiance in protest against American aggression on the Gulf of Sidra and American state terrorism against the Libyan Arab people.

Public rallies and demonstrations took place outside American Embassies in Prague, Panama, Athens, Dublin, Madrid, Valleta and Nicosia. Also taking part in these demonstrations of protest were progressive movements, peace organizations, liberation movements and trade unions. The demonstrators shouted slogans including 'Down with imperialism', 'Down with American aggression and terrorism'.

The demonstrators issued statements and sent messages to the leader of the great 1st September revolution reasserting their support for and solidarity with the Libyan Arab people in countering American imperialist aggression on the Gulf of Sidra. The demonstrators urged all peace and freedom loving peoples to stand by the people of Jamahiriyah in its steadfast struggle against terroristic plots being hatched by the head of international terrorism — the American Administration.

MAURITANIA

Interior Minister Receives Libyan Official

AB270833 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel Anna Amadou Babaly, member of the CMSN and minister of interior, yesterday morning received [name indistinct], secretary of the Libya-Mauritania Arab Fraternity Bureau in Nouakchott. They discussed the latest developments in the situation in the Mediterranean. In this regard, the minister reaffirmed Mauritania's total support for Libya.

SUDAN

Commander on Army's 'Full Control' of Upper Nile

JN271124 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1014 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) — Staff Major General Muhammad Zayn Muhammad, the military commander of the Upper Nile Region, has announced that the Armed Forces are now in full control of the situation in the Upper Nile after taking the initiative from Colonel Garang's forces, which forced the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement remnants to flee outside the Upper Nile Region.

Armed Forces Besiege Rumbek; Mutiny Among Rebels

JN271203 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) — The magazine *AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH* [Armed Forces] said today there is a tight siege around Rumbek city by the Armed Forces, and as a result the outlaws have been split into several groups without any joint leadership, each acting on its own. The paper said that a regiment of outlaw forces led by James [name indistinct] Wangli mutinied because of huge losses and lack of [words indistinct].

The magazine added that the cause of the fighting among the outlaws is that some of them are convinced of the futility of the fighting among the peoples of Sudan and believe that foreign powers are behind the continuation of the war.

DJIBOUTI

President Condemns U.S. Actions Against Libya

EA272041 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] A statement released in the capital of the Republic of Djibouti says the president of the Republic of Djibouti, who is also the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Al-Hajj Hassan Gouled Apidon, the Government of the Republic Djibouti, and the general public of Djibouti strongly condemn the U.S. Administration's unprovoked action and threats against our Libyan brothers and their country. The Government of the Republic of Djibouti urgently calls on the U.S. Administration to halt the military action with which it is provoking and threatening an Arab League member country.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Chairs Meeting of Constitution Commission

EA272355 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Executive Committee of the commission drafting the Constitution of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has completed preparation of the draft Constitution to be presented to the second congress of the drafting commission. The Executive Committee completed preparation of the draft Constitution at its second regular meeting at the WPE Central Committee office today after discussing and studying the blueprint presented by the Draft Constitution Preparation Committee, which is one of the committees established earlier by the Constitution drafting commission.

The second regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the commission drafting the Constitution chaired by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, chairman of the PMAC and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, started its work by listening to a report presented by Comrade Shewandagne Belete, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the WPE Central Committee, on the work done so far by the commission's office and the various committees.

At the end of its meeting, the Executive Committee of the commission drafting the Constitution formulated the remaining work program of the commission, decided on the date of the second meeting of the commission's congress, and formulated the agenda and program.

KUNA: ELF Official Interviewed on New 'Offensive'

LD271437 Kuwait KUNA in English 1254 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 27 (KUNA) — "Ethiopia is planning to launch a massive offensive within few months in an attempt for a military liquidation of the Eritrean revolution", a prominent Eritrean leader said here today.

In an interview with (KUNA) president of the Eritrean Liberation Front-ELF-PLF "the Unified Command," Osman Salih Subai said a 50,000 troop (?build-up) is now under way, while officers were sent for training in the Soviet Union for that purpose. He asserted that the offensive will be launched during the rain months (June - August) against "the liberated parts of Eritrea.

Due to the on-going Gulf war, the complicated Middle East situation and the oil market crisis, we are no longer receiving substantial aid from our Arab and other friends, he added. The Arab oil-producing states, it is recalled, provided generous (?aid to) the Eritrean freedom fighters and hosted offices of different Eritrean factions.

Subai said a recent meeting of the Eritrean National Council resolved on adopting a policy of self reliance for securing arms and other supplies, adding we will also capture enemy arms.

He said four days ago, ELF-PLF troops shattered two Egyptian brigades near the city of "Tensai" and captured 700 pieces of light arms, about 250,000 bullets and two heavy transport trucks.

The ELF-PLF leader said despite heavy Ethiopian patrolling and the existence of a Soviet naval base near the city of Dahlak, which operates in coordination with Ethiopia, "the Red Sea is still open to us".

During the past few months, we have been able to bring reasonable quantities of supplies including food materials, through the Red Sea into the liberated zone. He said the present state in Eritrea is characterized by poverty which resulted from the prevailing wave of drought and famine.

An enlarged convention will be held in the liberated zone within the coming four months to discuss an agenda topped by the issue of Eritrean national unity, the ELF leader said, adding, the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front — EPLF--is still refusing a dialogue with the ELF--unified command "despite efforts made by friends of the revolution".

Subai said the convention will decide on new strategies and choose permanent leaderships for the unified command. He said if a national Eritrean unity could be realized, then the revolution would be freed from the prevailing suffering.

He said despite all efforts exerted by neighbouring Arab countries for a peaceful solution to the conflict, Ethiopia still insists on war and hostilities.

The ELF-PLF chief executive said contrary to Ethiopian allegations, Sudan is not providing any assistance or allowing the safe passage of equipment into the liberated Eritrean territories, at least during the past seven years.

"The Sudanese Government even refused to give back some military equipment which had been stored in its territory since 1981", he added.

He said Ethiopia is not providing aid to south Sudan rebels to compromise over Eritrea, because it repeatedly turned down

Sudanese proposals to negotiate a peaceful solution with the Eritreans.

The ultimate Ethiopian objective is to crush the revolution but we will continue to survive and struggle same as we have done in the last quarter of a century in which we sacrificed a quarter million of our people, he stressed.

He said Ethiopia's direct intervention in south Sudan, and the provision of arms, logistics and miliary training to the rebels is done under a green light by the big powers of the East and West.

SOMALIA

Opposition Front Elects CC Executive Committee

EA272336 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces recently held a meeting following the Second DFSS Congress and elected an Executive Committee as follows:

Dr Hasan Ali Mireh, **chairman of the DFSS and secretary of the fronts foreign affairs;**

Dr Muhammad Farah Jimaaleh, **deputy chairman of the DFSS;**

Colonel Abdullahi Jama Kulmiyeh, **DFSS defence secretary;**

Fighter Abdullahi Haji Elmi, **DFSS information secretary;**

Fighter Hasan Yusuf Ali (Garabey), **DFSS political affairs and mobilization secretary;**

Fighter Abd al-Rahman Shireh Warsameh, **DFSS finance secretary;**

Fighter Husayn Ali **(Shidob), DFSS social affairs secretary**; and

Fighter Abd al-Razzaq Ahmad Ali, **DFSS religious affairs and justice secretary.**

Our reporter says that the Executive Committee has held its first meeting and decided on the various committees of the various sections, bases and other centers of the DFSS.

DFSS Chairman Declares Support for Libya

LD271843 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The new chairman of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces, fighter Hasan 'Ali Mireh, speaking on behalf of the DFSS Second Congress held between 19 and 25 March 1986, on behalf of the DFSS Central Committee and on his own behalf, said the DFSS fully supported the people and sister nation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in their just war to repulse the provocative and aggressive war unleashed against their country by imperialist America, which had been conspired, planned and premediated. Chairman Hasan 'Ali Mireh said the DFSS vehemently condemned the unprovoked and naked aggression launched against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and against the freedom, stability and unity of the Libyan people and nation. The DFSS and the General Public of Somalia opposed to the fascist regime of Siad Barre fully support their brothers in Libya for their vigilance in defending their freedom and sovereignty against imperialist America.

Responding to the call of fighter chairman Dr Miren, the fighters of the DFSS are fully prepared and ready to give moral and material support to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Spokesman Rejects BBC Report on Talks With Ethiopia

EA272234 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] A spokesman of the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance, today strongly rejected the recent BBC report in the program "The Muslim World" in which the BBC said the ongoing peaceful and conciliatory talks between Somalia and Ethiopia have been brought about by virtue of Italian aid to Somalia. The spokesman said the idea of holding peaceful talks between Somalia and Ethiopia was not a foreign one, but was introduced by the leaders of the two countries after taking into consideration the benefits and interests of the two neighboring peoples. The spokesman went on to say that the ongoing conciliatory talks could not be purchased with material things and the BBC report was therefore far from the truth.

The spokesman of the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance added that the Italian aid to Somalia was part of the Italian Government's pledge at the UN conference on the emergency situation in Africa held in Geneva 11-12 March 1958, when the Italian Government agreed to give 21 African countries $1 billion. The beneficiaries of the aid comprised the countries hit by prolonged drought and desertification, including Somalia, Sudan, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mali, and Senegal. It is therefore astonishing to note, the Somali spokesman said, that the BBC interpreted Somalia's share of the Italian aid as an inducement to persuade Somalia to sit at a round table with Ethiopia. This is nothing but fabrication and baseless propaganda.

The spokesman for the Somali Ministry of Information and National Guidance added that the Italian Government's aid to development projects in Somalia was planned on a 3-year basis. The BBC report was therefore nothing but unfounded and baseless lies, commensurate with the BBC's customary concoctions and confusion.

UGANDA

Museveni Receives Libyan Delegation 27 March

EA271536 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has received a delegation from the revolutionary movement of Libya led by Dr 'Abdallah. The delegation delivered a message from the Libyan Government.

During the meeting held at State House, Entebbe, the president and the members of the delegation discussed matters of bilateral relations and unity in Africa.

NRA Mobile Division Reaches Sudanese Border
EA271813 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The mobile division of the National Resistance Army [NRA] has arrived in Nimule on the border with the Sudan. Nimule is in Moyo District.

A spokesman of the Ministry of Defense says Ugandan troops exchanged brotherly greetings with the Sudanese Army on the opposite side and found their two army helicopters which were stolen by the Okello group. He added that many Ugandans who had fled into the Sudan and would like to come back are already in touch with NRA units and orders have been given to the authorities to facilitate their return.

In the meantime, troops on the western front yesterday liberated the town of Nebbi and are now proceeding to Arua Town. Previously on the eastern sector, the troops liberated the townships of Gatonga and (Adlai). In most of the latest advances the NRA have found no resistance from the defeated army, also equipment, incuding a 122-mm howitzer, has been recovered.

Cattle-raiders are, however, continuing to disturb the areas of Soroti. Warning is hereby given to all lawless elements to stop cattle-raiding forthwith. Special programs for Karamoja are being worked out and those elements should take advantage of the programs instead of continuing to disturb the peaceful life of other citizens. If, however, they continue to follow their misguided ways, the Defense Ministry spokesman said, they will have to feel the whole weight of the NRA.

CAR

Kolingba Addresses Nation on Crash of French Plane

AB271608 Paris AFP in French 1514 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Bangui, 27 March (AFP) — The accident of the Jaguar plane of the French Air Force which crashed Thursday morning onto a Bangui neighborhood killing 22 people and wounding about 30 others must not lead to an "unleashing of racial violence and hatred," CAR head of state General Andre Kolingba declared in a radio broadcast on Thursday. The CAR president, who made the statement shortly after a violent anti-French demonstration in the streets of Bangui, appealed to the people for calm and said that the plane accident, due to a technical fault, constitutes a "veritable tragedy" for the entire Central African Republic.

Gen Kolingba specified that the tragedy occurred in the context of the Chadian conflict and made the CAR victims — children of a Koranic school as well as some persons living in straw huts along the road to the Bangui airport — "martyrs of peace." "However painful and sad this tragedy may be," stated Gen Kolingba, "I appeal for calm and dignity as a mark of respect for the memory of the dead."

After also appealing to the CAR people for patriotism and a sense of responsibility and hospitality, President Kolingba affirmed that the presence of the French forces in CAR is "due to the threats of aggression facing the stability and security of our region and more particularly the CAR." After observing that this tragedy has occurred in a country which itself in not at war but which has been working tirelessly to safeguard peace, President Kolingba called on the warring Chadian people "to find a solution so that our region may finally live in peace and far from permanent threats of destabilization and outside interference."

He finally decreed Friday 28 March as a day of national mourning and announced that national funerals will be organized for the compatriots who "have died for peace."

French Minister Promises Compensation

HK280124 Hong Kong AFP in English 0042 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 27 (AFP) — France will compensate "as soon and as fully as possible" relatives of those killed and injured when a French fighter plane crashed in Bangui Thursday, Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac said here in a communique. Urgent action had been taken to help the victims, notably medical aid. Mr Aurillac also had sent condolences to General Andre Kolingba, president of the Central African Republic.

Twenty-two people, many of them children, were killed and about 30 were injured when the jet crashed into a crowded, mainly Moslem section of Bangui, shortly after take-off because of technical problems. Anti-French demonstrations erupted afterwards. Europeans driving through the city had their cars stoned and some 50 of them took refuge in the French Embassy.

Violent Anti-French Demonstrations

AB271440 Paris AFP in French 1411 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 27 Mar (AFP) — The number of casualties in the accident of the Jaguar fighter plane of the French Air Force which crashed Thursday morning onto a populated neighborhood in Bangui has risen to 22 killed and about 30 wounded, Jean-Pierre Vidon, the French charge d'affaires in the Central African Republic, told AFP early this afternoon.

Mr Vidon, who was contacted from Paris by telephone, also indicated that a violent anti-French demonstration occured on the streets of the CAR capital for 2 hours, marked by the stoning of the windscreens of cars driven by Europeans. More violent scuffles occurred near a supermarket but the demonstrators were rapidly dispersed, he added. About 50 French people, who were near the embassy at the time of the demonstration, took refuge in the chancellery for some time, said the charge d'affaires. There are now about 3,500 French nationals in the CAR. According to Mr Vidon, they have been asked to remain at home and to be calm.

The CAR president has made a radio broadcast appealing to the people to remain calm and justifying the Frnech presence. This appeal was followed by the broadcast of a message of condolences from French head of state Francois Mitterrand, Mr Vidon said.

CHAD

Hissein Habre, GUNT Leader To Meet in Brazzaville

Habre Due 27 Mar

AB271216 Paris AFP in French 1130 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 27 Mar (AFP) — Chadian head of state Hissein Habre will leave Ndjamena today, Thursday, for Brazzaville at the invitation of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, it was officially announced on Thursday in the Chadian capital. According to a communique published by the Presidency of the Republic, Mr Hissein Habre, who is expected to leave for the Congo late in the morning, "will no doubt have thorough discussions with his Congolese counterpart concerning bilateral relations and the process of consolidation of peace in Chad." The communique adds that during this visit, there will be a meeting between Mr Habre and the current OAU chairman, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, but does not specify whether the Chadian head of state will have contacts with certain Chadian opposition elements.

The communique adds that President Habre will be accompanied by a large delegation including Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou and the new minister of justice, General Djibril Negue Djogo. The three other opposition elements who have rallied to Ndjamena and who joined the government last Sunday — Mbailem Bana Ngarnayal, minister of finance and data processing; Djibrine Grinky, minister of culture, youth and sports; and Mahamat Senoussi Khatir, minister of national education — will also join the delegation.

Hissein Habre Met by Sassou-Nguesso

AB271735 Paris AFP in French 1602 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 27 Mar (AFP) — President Hissein Habre of Chad arrived at Maya-Maya Airport in Brazzaville Thursday afternoon at 1520 GMT (1620 local time) aboard a special plane, a Fokker 28 of Air Gabon. The Chadian president, who was welcomed upon his arrival by Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, preceded Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and current OAU chairman, whose arrival is scheduled for this afternoon. Mr Habre heads a government delegation of about 15 members, including the minister of foreign affairs, Gouara Lassou, and the minister of justice, General Negue Djogo.

A meeting scheduled for this weekend in Congo between Mr Habre and his main adversary, Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government (armed opposition to Ndjamena), was announced on Wednesday by a reliable source in Brazzaville, it was recalled.

Senegal's Diouf Arrives

AB271826 Paris AFP in French 1705 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 27 Mar (AFP) — Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and chairman of the OAU arrived at the Maya-Maya International Airport in Brazzaville today at 1540 GMT (1640 local time) on board his presidential plane, about 20 minutes after Chadian head of state Hissein Habre.

After a very colorful welcome ceremony, Abdou Diouf and his host, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso drove off in an open car toward the People's Palace in Brazzaville. It is still not known when Goukouni Oueddei, president of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], armed opposition to the Ndjamena regime, will arrive in the Congolese capital for the OAU arranged meeting of reconciliation between the opposed factions in the Chadian conflict. A GUNT delegation led by External Relations Minister Facho Balaam, arrived in Brazzaville on Wednesday.

GUNT Leader Not To Attend

AB281310 Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, March 28 (AFP) — Ousted Chadian leader Goukouni Oueddei will not take part in talks in Congo with President Hissein Habre aimed at ending the country's 20-year-old civil war, a representative of Mr Goukouni's rebel alliance said here on Friday.

Mr Abderrahman Moussa, Paris spokesman for Mr Goukouni's Libyan-backed Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), said the deposed president had refused to attend the talks unless the Organization of African Unity [OAU] condemned France's most recent intervention in favor of Mr Habre's administration. "In order for this conference to take place, the GUNT is waiting for the Organization of African Unity to denounce clearly French intervention in Chad and not to support it through its silence," Mr Moussa told AFP.

Mr Habre, who ousted Mr Goukouni from power in 1982, arrived in Brazzaville Thursday for the talks, scheduled to take place this weekend in the southern Congolese town of Loubomo. The talks were also to have been attended by Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and current chairman of the Organization of African Unity, and Congolese President Denis Sassou Nguesso, who has been mandated by the OAU to bring the two opposing sides together.

The GUNT spokesman said that although Mr Goukouni had agreed to attend the long-awaited talks, "it is certain that the protocol problem, as addressed by the Congolese authorities, remains one of the handicaps working against Chadians meeting around a negotiating table." In three years of attempts to persuade both belligerents to negotiate, the GUNT has consistently refused to meet with Mr Habre unless he agreed to meet the rebels on an equal protocol footing and not as head of state. Mr Habre had come to Congo with a large delegation, including a number of former rebels who recently came over to the government side.

The attempt to stage the talks comes nearly a month after abortive rebel attacks against government-held settlement in the north of the country. France responded to the attacks by dispatching nearly 1,000 troops and several warplanes to Chad to bolster Mr Habre's government against the rebels. In 1983, Paris airlifted more than 3,000 troops to Ndjamena to halt the last major advance by the rebels, establishing a "red-line" defensive limit which divided the country into government and rebel-controlled halves. The Organization of African Unity has consistently called for both sides to reach a negotiated settlement to the protracted war.

ZAIRE

State Commissioner for PTT Dismissed

AB271302 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1218 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 27 Mar (AZAP) — Citizen Mukuku Afuka W'Etonda, state commissioner for posts, telephone, and telegraph (PTT), has been dismissed from his post according to the Presidential Decree No. 86/100 of 27 March 1986 which was published by the Voice of Zaire in its 1230 [1130 GMT] newscast. The same source announced that Citizen Ndokay Kolokp'wo, general manager of the Zairian Posts and Telecommunications Department, has also been dismissed according to Presidential Decree No. 86/101 of 27 March 1986.

Also today, the founding chairman of the MPR, president of the republic, and supreme commander of the Zairian Armed Forces, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, made some appointments within the Zairian Armed Forces.

Presidential Decree Promotes Officers

AB271824 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Colonel Engoma Kamba Wa Bongongu, commissioned at the Army Headquarters, No Mecano [expansion unknown] 152173 P, has been appointed deputy army chief of staff of land

forces, by presidential decree No 86-103 of 27 March 1986. Another presidential decree initialed today, appoints Colonel Mulumba A Mbote, a technician at the Army Headquarters, No Mecano 002449 Z, as commander of the Kamanyola Division.

On the other hand, Colonels and Division Commanders Nzimbi Ngbale Kongo Wa Basa No Mecano 007695 Z and Mulumba A Mbote No Mecano 002449 Z, have been exceptionally promoted to the rank of brigadier.

State Commissioner Criticizes Amnesty International
AB271522 Paris AFP in French 0911 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Montreal, 27 Mar (AFP) — The Zairian state commissioner (minister) for foreign affairs and cooperation, Mokolo Wa Mpombo, on Wednesday in Montreal, declined to comment on the recent Amnesty International's report mentioning particularly that some political prisoners have been tortured in Zaire.

After stating that he had not read the report, Mokolo Wa Mpombo said: "Amnesty International accuses without proof, without verification, and without informing the government in question." According to the minister, "Amnesty International bases its information on what people tell it and does not take the legitimate authorities into account." While joking, Mokolo Wa Mpombo recalled that somebody who, according to a previous Amnesty International report, had been killed, is now Zaire's ambassador to Guinea.

State Commissioner Mokolo Wa Mpombo is currently on an offiical visit to Canada.

BENIN

President Kerekou Returns From CEAO Summit

AB272025 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Kerekou returned to Cotonou this afternoon from Ouagadougou where, in the company of his peers, he participated in the 11th summit of heads of state of the CEAO [West African Economic Community]. He was welcomed at the foot of the ramp by Comrade Romain Villon Guezo, chairman of the permanent committee of Revolutionary National Assembly.

BURKINA FASO

Further Coverage of CEAO, ANAD Summit Meetings

CEAO Communique Issued

AB271708 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Final communique issued at the end of the CEAO summit in Ouagadougou on 27 March 1986; read by Justin Damo Barro, Burkina's minister of financial resources and outgoing chairman of the Council of Ministers]

[Text] The 11th conference of heads of state of the CEAO was held in Ouagadougou on 26 and 27 March 1986 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of the Republic, head of the government, and current chairman of the conference of heads of state. [applause]

Those who participated in this meeting were:

For the People's Republic of Benin: His Excellency General Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, president of the Republic and head of state.

For the Republic of Ivory Coast: His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic.

For the Republic of Mali: His Excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of the Malian People and president of the Republic.

For the Islamic Republic of Mauritania: His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state.

For the Republic of Senegal: His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic.

For the Republic of Niger: His Excellency Hamid Algabit, prime minister representing His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state.

Those who participated as observers were:

For the Republic of Guinea: His Excellency General Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress.

For the Republic of Togo: His Excellency Ato Koffi Amega, minister of foreign affairs.

The conference noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the objectives entrusted upon the community, in particular in the area of community projects as well as the second generation program. The community projects are being implementated according to schedule and two of them — the African Center for Higher Management Studies, CESAG, and the Regional Center for Solar Energy, CRES — have become full-fledged institutions of the community, by acquiring legal status and financial autonomy. The second generation program which was adopted by the 10th conference of heads of state in Bamako in 1984 and which bore in particular on village and pastoral water resources development, the adoption of a common agricultural policy and the regional transport plan, is being implemented according to the schedule.

The heads of state expressed satisfaction with the spirit of solidarity, friendship, and brotherliness between community members. They reaffirmed their faith in the community and are happy with the constant support given to the community by friendly countries, development finance institutions, as well as international organizations. The conference adopted the project for the setting up of a Regional Center for Commercial Information and Documentation, CRIC [Centre Regional d'Information et de Documentation Commerciale] whose headquarters will be in Abidjan, in the Republic of Ivory Coast. The People's Republic of Benin is to appoint a project manager. With a view to favoring the development and the implementation of the various areas of computer science in the community's members, the conference adopted a protocol concerning cooperation in the field of computer science. This protocol will be added in the annex of the treaty setting up the CEAO.

Considering the importance of renewable energies in the process of modernization and industrialization of members, the conference adopted the regional program for equipment in renewable energies prepared by the regional center for solar energy for the benefit of members of CEAO and ICDCS [Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel]. The conference adopted the various recurrent budgets for the General Secretariat, the FOSIDEC [Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community], the CESAG, the CRES and fixed the amount of the community development fund for 1986.

The conference noted the results of the deliberations of the commission for the implementation of the directives of the 10th summit and mandated the current chairman to summon the meeting of an ad hoc commission made up of experts in many fields of all members to examine these results, before being submitted to the Council of Ministers and later to the next conference of heads of state.

Elsewhere, the conference congratulated members of the commission for the quality job they did. Concerning the trial for the embezzlement of FOSIDEC funds, the conference expressed satisfaction with the smooth hearing of the case and affirmed its support for the implementation of the verdict of the current trial.

The conference congratulated the chairman and members of the Council of Ministers, as well as the experts of members for the quality job they did which enabled the community to consolidate its gains and to demonstrate its ability to honor its commitment to the implmentation program. The conference also congratulated Drissa Keita, secretary general of the CEAO and his deputy, as well as all his aides at the General Secretariat, for their dynamism and their devotion to duty. The conference decided to appoint Mamadou Haidara from Mali as secretary general. The conference decided to institutionalize solidarity days between the youths of CEAO members. [applause] The conference decided to appoint His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya [applause] chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and head of state, as current chairman of the CEAO beginning from the end of this session until the next conference of heads of state. The 12th conference of heads of states will be held in Nouakchott during the last week of October 1986.

The heads of state thanked in particular all friendly countries, inter-African and international organizations, and development finance institutions for their important and decisive contributions to the technical and financial implementation of community projects and the second generation program. They also thanked the technical assistants placed at the disposal of the General Secretariat and the specialized institutions of the community, for their competence and their availability. At the end of their deliberations, the heads of state of Benin, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea, and the representatives of the heads of state of Niger and Togo, thanked their brother and friend, Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, president of the Republic, and head of the government, members of the revolutionary government and the Burkinabe people for the very warm welcome given them and the friendly and brotherly atmosphere they enjoyed during their stay in Ouagadougou. [applause]

Issued in Ouagadougou on 27 March 1986

Communique Marks End of ANAD Summit

AB271753 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Final communique issued at end of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement Summit on 27 March in Ouagadougou, read by its secretary general, General Jean Gomis]

[Text] The 11th conference of heads of state and government or their representatives of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD] between members of the CEAO and Togo was held at the CEAO Congress Hall on 27 March, 1986, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, the chairman of the National Council of the revolution [CNR], president of the Republic, head of government and current chairman of the ANAD heads of state and government conference.

Participating in this conference were His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, president of the Republic and head of Government of Burkina Faso; His Excellency Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the president of the Republic of Ivory Coast; His Excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People, the president of the Republic of Mali; His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, CMSN chairman, head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; His Excellency Hamid Algabit, prime minister, representing His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, the chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of the Republic of Niger; His Excellency Mr Abdou Diouf, the president of the Republic of Senegal; and His Excellency Mr Ato Koffi Amega, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation representing His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic of Togo.

Also participating in this conference as observers were His Excellency brigadier General Mathieu Kerekou, the president of the People's Republic of Benin; His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Sory Doumbouya, minister of national defense representing His Excellency General Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress and president of the Republic of Guinea, Conakry.

First of all, the conference heard the activities report of the ANAD secretary general. Next, the conference heard the report of the 10th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers presented by Major Boukari Jean-Baptiste Lingani, the minister of popular defense of Burkina Faso. Within this framework, the conference, after adopting its agenda, went on to examine the dossiers submitted to it by the Council of Ministers, namely, political dossiers, draft addendum to the directives concerning missions and general instructions on ANAD peace force, administrative and financial dossiers, and the operational and equipment budget estimates for 1986. Finally, the conference examined the draft act which the Council of Ministers submitted to it for perusal.

The heads of state and governments noted the positive results of the first joint action of the ANAD on the occasion of the conflict between Burkina Faso and the Republic of Mali which led to the deployment of an observer commission for 1 month. The heads of state and government paid great tribute to their elder brother His Excellency Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny, for the important contribution of the Republic of Ivory Coast in the setting up of the observer commission. [applause] In addition, the heads of state and government expressed their deep gratitude to the president of the Republic of Ivory Coast, its government and to the Ivorian people for their solidarity gesture and sacrifices made. [applause] In order to perpetuate the memory of the four pilots of the Ivorian Air Force who died during this peace operation, the head of state and government decided to erect a seat at the scene of the accident of their helicpter. [applause]

The conference unanimously adopted all the texts brought before it for perusal, and approved the various acts concerning the

various decisions it took. The heads of state and government reaffirmed their solidarity and desire to strengthen, in the interest of their peoples, cooperation and assistance among their countries and to maintain peace and security in the subregion.

The heads of state and government expressed their hearty congratulations and gratitude to His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, the president of the Republic of Burkina Faso and head of government for the devotion, rigor, and efficiency with which he unrelentlessly accomplished his mandate as the current chairman of the ANAD. The heads of state and government decided to entrust the current chairmanship of the conference to His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, CMSN chairman and head of state. The eighth ANAD heads of state and government conference will be held in Nouakchott in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in October 1986.

Finally, the heads of state and government expressed their sincere gratitude to their brother and friend, His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman, president of the republic, head of government and chairman of the conference, to the Burkinabe Government and people for the especially warm, very fraternal and authentically African welcome given them and their delegations during their stay in the Burkinabe land.

Issued in Ouagadougou, on 27 March 1986, by the conference

Sankara, Conte Meet Press

AB272113 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Interview with Guinean and Burkinabe Presidents Lansana Conte and Thomas Sankara by Guinean and Burkinabe Press at the VIP lounge following Guinean President Conte's Arrival at Ouagadougou Airport on 27 March — recorded]

[Text] [Conte] In the first place, I wish to thank President Sankara and the Burkinabe authorities for the warm welcome accorded my delegation. I also thank them for giving some members of my delegation the opportunity to visit Burkina Faso for the first time. We are very much impressed and we feel at home here in Burkina Faso. We are at ease and all the Guineans ... [changes thought] all the members of my delegation are happy to have come here to greet their Burkinabe brothers and to pay a short visit to your beautiful country,

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, the comrade president of Burkina Faso and current chairman of the 11th CEAO summit would like Guinea and Togo to become members of the CEAO. Do you share this view?

[Conte] Certainly. A day will come when we will be a member of the CEAO. I know that the effort is being made by our brothers who are already members. That is our wish too, and certainly a day will come when we will also become a member of the CEAO.

[Unidentified Guinean reporter addressing Sankara] Mr President, here we are in Burkina Faso to attend a CEAO summit which you are presiding over. The previous OAU summit was essentially devoted to Africa's economic problems. The CEAO and ECOWAS are regional organizations which participate in this African integration effort. What further prospects can we expect from this CEAO summit?

[Sankara] Thank you. Before answering your question, I would like to welcome my elder brother, President Conte, who is well-known to us here for his sympathy and love for Burkina Faso and its leaders. It has been a long time that we have been expecting his visit. Finally, he has come.

Well, Africa's economic prospects are quite difficult. They are difficult because our economic partners — with whom we deal — are insensitive to our call. I do not believe that simple willingness of the heart is enough to solve our current economic problems. It is only through struggle that we can do so. And struggle, first of all means (?pooling together) our forces. In this regard, all groups that we can initiate are welcome — CEAO, ECOWAS, as well as the efforts being made by the OAU, are equally welcome. At this point, it is necessary that we should not form groups which may be taken over by any forces or any world powers whatsoever.

Africa has several sorts of resources, for example, Guinea. Guinea alone has enough resources to be able to feed West Africa. And our inability to extract and exploit these resources stems from the fact that we are not able to organize ourselves together and we all remain dependent. Guinea, Burkina Faso, and other African countries; we all run to the same foreign sources for our supplies, whereas we have all that we need. Therefore, the watchword for our economic struggle must be fruitful unity.

[Guinean reporter] Mr President, on the bilateral level, how do you assess Guinean-Burkinabe cooperation?

[Sankara] Guinean-Burkinabe cooperation will be expanded and strengthened. Up to today, we have maintained excellent political and diplomatic relations with Guinea, but we have not sufficiently explored our bilateral cooperation. You recently had the opportunity to welcome our minister of commerce in Guinea. It is a sign of what we intend doing and I am quite sure that with the firm support of the delegation of the political leadership of Guinea and the personal insistence of President Lansana Conte, this project will not be in vain.

You, Guineans, have to propose to us the products that we want, that we need, that we desire from your country. And probably, in return, we Burkinabes will be able to suggest to you things — exchanges are necessary.

As you know, in the cultural sector, the prestige that Guineans enjoy here in Burkina Faso any time we receive Guinean delegation here is really great. It is a real celebration. In return, we will also try to perform in Guinea in order to further strengthen this important bond of cooperation between you and us.

OAU Chairman Diouf Speaks

AB271033 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Abdou Diouf, current OAU chairman, on behalf of his peers, thanked the people of Burkina Faso for their legendary hospitality, and underscored the activities of the Community [CEAO] and ANAD. Let us listen to President Abdou Diouf, OAU chairman.

[Begin Diouf recording] The objectives we have set for ourselves within the CEAO as well as the ANAD, are more than ever real, and we are more than ever determined to join our efforts to continue actions already engaged, to consolidate our gains and open new prospects. To this end, the common desire which motivates members of the CEAO and ANAD to take up the challenges facing our respective countries will be our most effective weapon to help us achieve our objectives together.

In our struggle to ensure the prosperity of our peoples, the CEAO, in a spirit of cooperation with other African subregional organizations, will spare no effort in making its contributions toward the search for lasting solutions to the critical economic situation in Africa, to which the international community, in an outburst of solidarity, has decided to devote all its efforts and all its creative imagination. In this perspective, our community will once agains show proof of a spirit of fraternal solidarity, cohesion and determination. [end recording]

President Diouf then praised the efforts of the president of Burkina Faso for his respect of structures of the common subregional organization, and stressed the sense of maturity shown by the community through its ability to solve its internal problems as well as the serious crises facing the member countries. A special mention was made of President Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast by the Senegalese head of state, for his clear-sightedness and his legendary wisdom.

Further Background on Secretary General Haidara

AB272003 Dakar PANA in English 1541 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Ouagadougou, 27 March (PANA) — The 11th summit of the heads of state of the West African Economic Community grouping Francophone countries (CEAO) appointed today in Ouagadougou, Mr. Mamadou Haidara from Mali as new secretary general of the organisation.

Mr. Haidara is taking over from his countryman, Mr. Drissa Keita, appointed in October 1984 during the 10th summit of the community held in Bamako. Mr. Keita was declared persona non grata in Burkina Faso in August 1985. Before his appointment, Mr. Haidara was Malian minister for transport. He is a qualified jurist and has served in his country as general manager of the Malian Development Bank and technical advisor to President Moussa Traore of Mali.

Liptako-Gourma Authority Issues Communique

AB272138 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Final communique issued at the end of the summit of heads of state of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority on 27 March in Ouagadougou and read by its general manager Souleimane Ganoua]

[Excerpts] The fourth conference of heads of state of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority, was held on 27 March 1986 in Ouagadougou, Burkina, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the revolution and president of the Republic.

Those who participated in this conference were: His Excellency Major General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and prersident of the Republic of Mali; His Excellency Hamid Algabit, prime minister of the Republic of Niger, representing His Excellency Brigadier Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state; His Excellency Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress and president of the Republic of Guinea, who was attending the conference's deliberation as an observer.

At the opening ceremony, His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the conference of heads of state of the Authority, made a welcome address in which he stressed the need to strengthen the ties of solidarity, brotherliness, and understanding between the authority's members which share common history, geography, and traditions.

Recalling the activities embarked upon since the third summit in Bamako for the revitalization of the authority, President Thomas Sankara reiterated the need to continue in this direction in order to enable our common organization to affirm its political weight in the subregion for the benefit of the peoples of the members. He also called on finance institutions to direct particular attention to the implementation of the authority's priority program within the framework of its fundamental objectives of food self-sufficiency and providing easy access to the sea.

Concerning particularly the implementation of the priority program of the Liptako-Gourma Authority, the conference expressed its satisfaction for the effective take-off of the water supply project and the forthcoming launching of the telecommunications network of the Liptako-Gourma Authority.

The conference thanked all bilateral and multlateral cooperation agencies which enabled the authority to conclude its activities and called on these agencies to continue their support to our common organization in order to enable it to complete other projects, in particular the second water supply program of the authority, the integrated program for the fight against drought and desertification in the Liptako-Gourma Region, communications infrastructures like the Bori-(Pera)-Niamey road, the Ouagadougou-Kay Dori road, the Yako-Mopti road, as well as the project for the Sahel railroad from Ouagadougou to (Tombao) which will be extended to Mali and Niger.

The heads of state and government decided to hold their next summit in Niamey, Republic of Niger.

Issued on Ouagadougou on 27 March 1986

[Signed] the conference.

People's Revolutionary Tribunal Trial Resumes
AB271812 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The deliberations of the People's Revolutionary Tribunal [TPR] resumed this morning at the Court of Justice.

This trial related to Air Afrique once again shows that the 15th session of the TPR has a special significance compared to other sessions because it is trying cases concerning several African countries. This trial can be compared to the CEAO trial which began on 25 March tackling the Diawara case with some suspense following lawyers the accused persons' lawyers challenging the TPR competence in trying the case.

In fact, the heads of state have just decided to let the TPR proceed in the deliberations. This was mentioned in the final communique issued after the CEAO summit.

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Head of State Traore Returns From CEAO Summit
AB272226 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The head of state, General Moussa Traore, returned home this afternoon from Ouagadougou where he took part in the 11th summit of heads of state of the West African Economic Community.

He was welcomed upon his arrival by the deputy general secretary of the party — Democratic Union of Malian People — Amadou Baba Diarra, the members of party's Central Executive Bureau, of the cabinet, and of the National Assembly. Also present at the airport were the various chiefs of staff of the Army and the constituted corps.

ANGOLA

KUP Carries Communique on Attack on Oil Company

MB280912 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 28 Mar (KUP) — The UNITA armed forces have carried out large-scale operations in Cabinda Province, among them an attack at 0400 on 24 March against the Malongo oil complex. At the same time, several sections of the pipeline were blown up with dynamite in the regions of Chimbondo, Bucomazi, Chinga, and Santa Catarina.

This was revealed in a communique issued on the same day and signed by UNITA's Chief of Staff Brigadier Alberto Joaquim Vinama Chendovava. The communique added that heavy damage was caused and that certain regions are still ablaze as a direct result of the explosions during the attack.

Envoy to Cuba Reiterates Peace Readiness

PA272229 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] The Government of the People's Republic of Angola has reiterated it is willing to negotiate and to keep struggling to guarantee a climate of peace in the region of the South African cone, Manuel Pedro (?Pacabira), Angolan ambassador to Cuba said in Havana.

During a ceremony to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Angola's victory over the South African invaders, Ambassador (?Pacabira) criticized the warmongering policy of South Africa, the regime of apartheid, and of the United States. The Angolan ambassador to Cuba reaffirmed Angola's opposition to U.S. and South Africa's efforts to make the implementation of U.N. Resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia conditional on the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

LESOTHO

Government Bans All Political Activity

MB271640 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Our correspondent in Maseru reports that all political activity in Lesotho has been suspended. In terms of the proclamation in the Government Gazette, no one may take part in any political activity or encourage the management of any political party. All public meetings with a political context also are prohibited, as are political publications.

General Lekhanya Holds Press Conference

MB261311 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Military Council and Council of Ministers, Major General J.M. Lekhanya, says the military took power simply to save the people of this country from the dangers resulting from the lawlessness that characterized the last days of the previous regime. Answering a question by a foreign journalist today on the return to civilian rule, Maj Gen J.M. Lekhanya said the present government intends to stay on until true reconciliation has been achieved, when a return to barracks will follow. He, however, said that their return to the barracks will definitely be determined by the people.

Asked on his relationships with his majesty, Maj Gen Lekhanya said they are cordial if they are between the head of state and head of government, and that this by itself determines the constitutional relationship. On the question of party political activities, he said they had been suspended by law and as far as he was concerned the country was plunged into a state of crisis by the irresponsible and criminal behavior of party political opportunists and self-seekers, who were prepared to sacrifice the lives of the people to achieve their own selfish ends.

He said the Lesotho Royal Defense Force was split into two by the ruling clique, who were desirous of promoting a private army for themselves, while on the other hand the so-called Liberation Army was killing fellow Basotho, on the instructions of another clique of party politicians. These party political games had only one victim, the people of Lesotho, he said, and that he believed therefore that they, the people of Lesotho, must be given a break which they so much deserve.

Asked about South African refugees, Maj Gen Lekhanya said those members of the South African refugee community, including members of the ANC whose safety Lesotho could not guarantee, were asked to leave the country under the auspices of the UNHCR [United Nations High Commission on Refugees] and since the military takeover, about 100 people departed in this manner and that the process continues. He added that the ANC has no diplomatic presence in Lesotho. Maj Gen Lekhanya said that Lesotho, as a signatory to the UN Convention on Refugees and related protocols, will continue to provide asylum to genuine refugees.

The Lesotho Government has declared a general and unconditional amnesty in favor of all Basothos who left their country for political reasons, including Mr Ntsu Mokhetle, Maj Gen Lekhanya said in answer in relation to the attitude of the Lesotho Government to the reported presence in South Africa of Mr Ntsu Mokhetle. When asked about the general conditions of the amnesty, he said it had been received by Basotho both inside and outside the country and that necessary statistics relating to returnees are being prepared.

On the status of investigations into the deaths of three people in detention, he said postmortems were carried out by three pathologists on each of the deceased. One pathologist was a government pathologist, while the other two were engaged by the families of the deceased and the government, respectively, and they are awaiting their reports. However, the government has already ordered an inquest into the circumstances surrounding each of the deaths.

When asked on the number of detained members of the former government, the major general pointed out that members of the

former government have been detained for questioning on an ad hoc basis. He continued that the government thinks it is in the national interest and in the interest of true reconciliation to establish the role of these individuals in the criminal activities of the previous regime, and was confident that these questionings will lead to court appearances by some or all of them.

On the definition of Lesotho's relations with South Africa, he said that Lesotho's relations with South Africa are characterized by the spirit of neighborliness. On the question of Lesotho's ties with communist countries, Maj Gen Lekhanya said that the present Government of Lesotho will continue the policy of non-alignment, but he added that, however, it reserves the right to review any of the relationships established by the previous regime.

Party Leaders Seek 'Urgent Talks' With Government

MB271427 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1352 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Maseru, March 27, SAPA — The leaders of the four main political parties in Lesotho today called for urgent talks with the country's military rulers aimed at achieving a solution to the country's political problems.

A statement issued by the leaders of the four parties today said representatives of the parties met the exiled leader of the Basotholand Congress Party, and commander-in-chief of the Lesotho Liberation Army, Mr Ntsu Mokehle, in Johannesburg this week.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the "restoration of peace and stability in the country," the statement said. It added that the talks were "warm and cordial" and took place in an "international" (multi-racial) hotel in Johannesburg.

It said the significance of the meeting was an agreement reached to work together to achieve a peaceful solution to Lesotho's political problems. The leaders also called for the restoration of the 1966 independence constitution suspended in 1970 by the former prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan.

The four parties represented at the talks were: The Maremat-lou Freedom Party, the United Democratic Party, the National Independent Party, and the Basotholand Congress Party.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chipande Reappointed Defense Minister; Others Named

MB281419 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] In the framework of the implementation of the recent decisions made by the Political Bureau, Marcelino dos Santos resumes his full-time post as secretary of the People's Assembly Standing Commission. This is reported in a communique of the Political Bureau published in Maputo today.

The document also mentions the appointment of other Political Bureau members to the leadership of various sectors. Thus, Alberto Joaquim Chipande resumes his full-time post as minister of national defense. Armando Emilio Guebuza supervises agriculture, light, and food industry, internal trade and tourism. Jorge Rebelo will be responsible for the party's ideological work and supervise the social sector, namely education, health, justice, information, culture and sports. Mario da Craca Machungo will supervise planning, finances, banking, foreign trade, labor, salary and prices, transport and communications, mineral resources, industry and energy, and construction and water affairs. Jose Oscar Monteiro will deal with party organization.

The communique states that the Political Bureau decided that the main issue to be solved was for the party to resume its role as the leading force of the state and society, a role which in practice was being played by government organs.

SOUTH AFRICA

Le Grange Bans Open Air Meetings for 1 Year

MB271519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1515 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — A notice prohibiting outdoor public gatherings, with certain exceptions, under Section 46 (3) of the Internal Security Act — deemed necessary for the maintenace of public peace — for 12 months from next Tuesday, was gazetted in Pretoria today.

Indoor gatherings to promote school boycotts or work stayaways are also banned. Sport is not affected.

The promulgation, signed by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, prohibits any gathering in the republic from April 1 this year up to and including March 31, 1987, "except any gathering for the purpose of a bona fide sport occasion or which is held within a building."

The promulgation also prohibits any gathering in any building in the republic during this period, "if such a gathering is a gathering organised, convened or held or otherwise brought about to:

— "Advise, encourage, propagate, advocate or promote the non-attendance or opposition to the attendance of any school, college, university or other educational institution by any person; or

— "Advise, encourage, instigate or incite, except in so far as it is not prohibited in terms of Section 65 of the Labour Relations Act, 1956 (Act 28 of 1956), any person to leave his work or service or not to return to such work or service, or to delay or impede it."

The prohibitions will not apply to any gathering expressly authorised by Mr le Grange, or, subject to the provisions of Section 46 (3) of the Internal Security Act, by the magistrate of the district in which the gathering is to be held." [quotation marks as received]

AZAPO Vows To Contest Ban

MB271806 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1803 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 27, SAPA — AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization] today promised to contest a ban — "intended to cripple and kill efforts to resolve the problems facing black people" — on unauthorised outdoor gatherings and indoor gatherings to promote school boycotts or work stayways.

In a statement released in Johannesburg today, the Azanian People's Organisation said: "Le Grange (the minister of law and order, Mr Louis Le Grange) and his coterie of racist capitalists must realise that black people cannot be dragooned and coerced into accepting a rotten and evil system".

The organisation stated it would contest the ban, which begins on April 1, through all available channels.

"Education is one of the most important problems facing Azania today," the statement said.

The promulgation by Mr le Grange of the notice prohibiting certain gatherings was intended to cripple and kill efforts to resolve the problems facing black people, particularly in the educational sphere, AZAPO said.

"We of Azapo as the overt liberation movement in Azania, realise that the oppressive system wishes to put to death the efforts of open criticism and action by the black people against continued oppression.

"We are also aware that the white South African system wants to drive overt political activity undergound as happened when the old organisations were banned in the 1960's

"The emergence of the overt black consciousness philosophy through SASO (the South African Students Organisation) killed the political lull of the 1960's.

"The South African regime should learn that the stifling of overt political action has led to the increase of covert activity in the form of the PAC (Pan Africanist Congress), ANC (African National Congress) and the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania.

"We shall not accept the promulgation lying down and shall contest it through all available channels."

PFP: Government Responsible for Winterveld Violence

MB271211 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1145 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Scores of people arrested by Bophuthatswana police in Winterveld yesterday appeared in court today.

A spokesman for the Ga-Rankuwa Magistrates Court said it was difficult to disclose figures of those who had already appeared, but he added their number was "substantial."

Figures released by the police department in Mmabatho said at least 2,500 people were arrested while the number of those injured was still being ascertained. The official death toll was still 11.

Meanwhile, the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] unrest monitoring committee chairman, Mr Chris Gilfillan, commenting on yesterday's bloodshed in Winterveld, said the South African Government was very much responsible for what was happening in "its independent states."

The spiralling violence in Bophuthatswana could no longer be ignored by the South African Government, he added.

He said he questioned the morality behind providing "vast" amounts of money to the states and then allowing them to do exactly what they wished to their people.

According to Mr Gilfillan's information the Bophuthatswana police had agreed to talk to the people of Winterveld about certain grievances which nullified allegations that it was an "illegal gathering." The grievances concerned alleged detentions made last weekend. It is believed the youngest alleged detainee is eight years of age.

This morning, the BBC reported two French doctors who work at a Roman Catholic clinic in Winterveld were among those arrested. It is not yet known if the men have been released. A spokesman for the French Embassy, Mr Jean-Louis Duclion, said he had no details on the matter.

The wife of Mr Sam Motsenyane, chairman of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce (NAFCOC), was also allegedly seriously injured and arrested at Winterveld.

Bophuthatswana minister of defence, Brigadier Hennie Riekert, was not immediately available for comment.

French Doctors Hold Press Conference on Beatings

MB271447 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1427 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — Two French doctors told a Pretoria press conference today that they had been beaten indiscriminately by Bophuthatswana police during the Winterveld shooting incident. Their arms, backs and chests bore witness to the beatings they allegedly received.

Among allegations they made was that police savagely beat people in police custody and that a policeman opened fire on pedestrians from a moving police van.

The doctors, Dr Vincent Faucherre, 31, and Dr Benedict Chaneut, 29, were at the Roman Catholic mobile clinic in Winterveld yesterday when they heard shots.

"It sounded like fireworks and we jumped in the car to go and see what was happening," said Dr Faucherre. "We saw policemen beating women and children. There were people running through the veld."

Dr Faucherre approached an armed plainclothes man, saying: "I am a doctor. You cannot do that." He then went to a colonel who allegedly pushed him and told two policemen to take him away.

In reply to a question, he said he was not sure whether the colonel witnessed his subsequent beating by the two policemen. The sjambokking lasted for two to three minutes. When Dr Chaneut rushed to his assistance she was also assaulted. She demonstrated how she was punched in the jaw by a policemen. Both were arrested, put in a van and taken to the Ga-Rankuwa police station. They were held in the yard with about 1,000 other people.

"We are not speaking for ourselves. We are speaking for those who are still being detained," she said. Throughout the afternoon they sat huddled in the police station yard as "laughing young policemen walked among us, kicking and beating us." "They are laughing, always laughing," said Dr Chaneut, who has only been in the country for two months. She said she would gladly stay and continue her work among the needy.

Police allegedly prevented anybody from speaking to them.

"When we tried to tell them we were from France they refused to believe us and accused us of being communists and terrorists," Dr Chaneut said.

About 8pm the French Embassy contacted the police station and after that they were treated better. "One policeman offered me cigarettes and water. It seemed like they wanted to be forgiven," she said.

Dr Faucherre said that a man who was standing behind him inside the police station was savagely beaten by a policeman. "It was terrible. Everybody was being beaten."

On his way to retrieve his car, Dr Faucherre said one of his police escorts fired two shots from his rifle as the car drove past pedestrians. He did not see if anyone had been hit "as the car was moving too fast and it was dark." The doctors will not be laying charges. Dr Faucherre was due to return to France yesterday.

White Papers on Influx Control, ID's Being Prepared

MB261254 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Preparatory work to eliminate influx control in its current form and to make provision for a uniform identity document for all population groups is at an advanced stage.

Our political news staff reports that a white paper concerning urbanization, which is to replace influx control, will soon be presented to the cabinet for its consideration, and it will then go before Parliament.

The white paper, which is being drawn up by the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, will spell out the government's new urbanization policy, which eliminates all aspects of discrimination. The white paper will also give an indication of how existing legislation will be affected in achieving this aim, and what new legislation relating to it will be introduced.

Legislation on the uniform identity document system for all population groups, which is handled by the Department of Home Affairs, has also been finalized and will be published soon.

29 Organizations To Attend Natal Indaba

MB270908 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0844 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 27, SAPA — The organisers of the KwaZulu/Natal "indaba" said today that 29 out of 40 organisations invited to take part had so far accepted.

In addition, the National Party and TUCSA [Trade Union Council of South Africa] are sending observers.

Two organisations have officially confirmed they will not participate in this event — and the organisers are busy contacting the remaining seven who have not responded officially although some have indicated in press reports they will not participate.

An indaba spokesman said the seven organisations were the African National Congress, the Azanian People's Organisation, the Conservative Party, Council of Unions of SA, Congress of SA Trade Unions, the Pan African Congress and the United Democratic Front.

The two definite "no's" have come from the Herstigte Nasionale Party [Reformed National Party] and the Natal Indian Congress.

The indaba will seek consensus on proposals to be put to the central government on the creation of a single leagislative body to govern the combined area of Natal and Kwazulu at second-tier level. It starts in Durban next Thursday.

The list of acceptances is: the Afrikaanse Sakekamer [Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce] (Natal Region), the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, [Afrikaans Trade Institute] the Black Allied Workers Union, Coloured Ad Hoc Committee, Durban City Council, Durban Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Inkatha, Inyanda Chamber of Commerce, the Islamic Council, Kwa-Loga, Kwazulu Canegrowers Association, KwaZulu Government, Labour Party, Natal Agricultural Union, Natal Association of LACS [Expansion unknown]. Natal Chamber of Industries, Natal Municipal Association, Natal Provincial Council, National People's Party, New Republic Party, People's Congress Party, Progressive Federal Party, Pietermaritzburg City Council, Reform Party, Regional Advisory Committee, SA Hindu Maha Sabha, SA Sugar Association/SA Canegrowers, Solidarity, the National Council of African Women.

Police Confirm SAAWU Leader, Others Detained

MB271851 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1821 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] East London, March 27, SAPA — Police here today confirmed the detention of the branch organiser of the South

African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU), Mr Sicelo Ndevu, and 19 others of whom three have been released.

A statement by SAAWU called upon the police to release Mr Ndevu and those who were arrested with him while attending the launching of the Mooiplaas Residents Organisation. The statement said the release should be unconditional as the meeting was legal because the Mooiplaas residents had obtained a permit to hold it.

"The branch committee of SAAWU is looking for some possibilities of taking further steps if Mr Ndevu and the others arrested with him are not released with immediate effect," the statement said.

The arrests were made on March 22. The border police liaison officer, Lieutenant Dot van der Vyver, said an application had been made for a permit to hold a meeting at Mooiplaas, but a permit was not needed. However, she said, a meeting was held for a different reason as to what was applied for. The detainees were held under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act.

SACP's Mabhida Funeral To Be Held in Maputo

MB271552 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] The funeral for South African Communist Party [SACP] general secretary, Moses Mabhida, has been called off. It was scheduled for Pietermaritzburg this weekend, but the family who are from the city were afraid there would be violence between police and mourners if it went ahead. Carmel Rickard has the story:

[Rickard] The family of Moses Mabhida has announced that the funeral plans have been changed. It was to have taken place in Pietermaritzburg on Monday, but last night that city's chief magistrate imposed a number of tough conditions. These included a ban on anyone but family and closest friends attending the funeral and a ban on political speeches and songs. A meeting between the organizers and their lawyers with the authorities in Pietermaritzburg today did not achieve any compromise and a large number of police and army reinforcements have already been brought into the city to ensure that the funeral conditions are observed.

This was communicated to the family who are in Maputo to collect the body of the SACP leader, and they have decided to call it off. Instead the funeral will take place in Maputo on Saturday.

9 Arrested for Murder of 2 on Langa Anniversary

MB261218 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0922 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 26, SAPA — Nine people — one a 40-year-old woman — have been arrested in connection with the apparent burning to death of two people who did not take part in functions to mark the first anniversary last Friday of the Langa shootings.

Police told SAPA's correspondent today the two dead were Mr Thobil Dike, 40, whose charred body was found in his house at Adelaide's black township near here, and 16-year-old Nomfundsino Mhlawu, a high school prefect who was found under a pile of burning tyres near Mr Dike's house.

Mr Dike apparently went to work last Friday and did not attend functions to mark the Langa tragedy. Miss Mhlawu apparently had refused last Friday to attend a Langa meeting at her school. The youngest of those arrested is 16.

Paratroopers Patrol Peninsula Townships

MB271949 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1948 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 27, SAPA — Paratroopers in buffel armoured cars patrolled peninsula townships today after violence earlier this week left two policemen and at least four residents dead.

It is the first time parabats have been seen in local townships during the current wave of unrest.

Police today confirmed the identities of two men shot dead by police during a stoning incident in Crossroads on Wednesday night. They were Mr Goodman Bongani Dastile of Nyanga and Mr Thabang Maphalane also of Nyanga.

He said that, in another incident this morning, several shots were fired at a police patrol van in Crossroads. Nobody was injured. Police had not returned fire as they could not see their attackers, he said.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 27 Mar

MB271625 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1619 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 27, SAPA — The following is the evening unrest report from the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria.

"In Old Crossroads near Cape Town, a number of shots were fired at a SAP (South African Police) vehicle, but there were no injuries or damage caused.

"At the Regtershoop station in the northern Transvaal, a mob of blacks threw stones at a passenger train. There was no damage caused.

"At Mooiplaas, in the border district, a mob petrol bombed private residences causing substantial damage.

"At Mbekweni, near Paarl, blacks threw a petrol bomb at a delivery vehicle causing a fair amount of damage.

"In Soweto, Witwatersrand, a number of blacks looted a delivery vehicle resulting in substantial loss.

"In another incident black men slashed a private vehicle's tyres and broke all the windows causing serious damage."

Ends report.

Early 28 Mar

MB280523 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0519 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 28, SAPA — Following is the unrest situation report until 7am today issued by the Public Relations Division of the SAP.

"At Lamontville near Durban a black man was slightly injured when a bus was stoned and at KwaMashu, also near Durban, a private home was damaged when it was set on fire.

"At Tembisa on the East Rand a black policemen was murdered and his body set on fire."

Government May Be 'Forced' To Intervene in Unrest

MB280918 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Station commentary: "Unrest and Discipline"]

[Text] The South African Government has been more than tolerant in its efforts to end the unrest which has been plaguing the country over the past 18 months. It has lifted the partial emergency and has used it security forces only to a limited extent in an effort to assist the country's black communitites to themselves end the violence which, until now, has affected mainly them.

But it appears that the black communities, of which the vast majority are against violence and in favor of a peacefully negotiated solution to South Africa's constitutional and political problems, are so intimidated by fear of the minority groups of radicals and their barbarous deeds that they are incapable of ending the violence without stronger supportive action from the government and its security forces.

For months before the lifting of the emergency, which covered only 36 of the country's 265 districts at any one time and lasted only 8 months, radicals and their organizations continuously clamored for its lifting, promising that the unrest would immediately end. But a month has passed since the ending of the emergency, and it is now becoming increasingly clear that the radicals have no intention of keep this promise of ending the violence. They have failed the test, and the results are there for the world to see.

Just before Easter, 28 blacks died over a period of 30 hours in some of the worst outbreaks of barbarism and violence during the 18 months of unrest, and the ANC has threatened an escalation of violence into white cities and towns.

If black communities continue to prove themselves unable to put the barbarous radicals in their place, the government will sooner or later be forced to use its might to assist the vast majority of moderate blacks to end the unrest, and thus pave the way for constructive negotiations without the disruptive influence of the Soviet Union's terrorist tools wielded by barbarous radicals.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

NIC Not To Participate in Indaba

"The Natal Indian Congress [NIC] has resolved not to participate in the Natal/KwaZulu indaba until the communities and the democratic organizations likely to be affected by the decision have been consulted," Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 24 March reports on page 3. At a meeting to discuss the indaba, the NIC also demanded the release of Nelson Mandela, the unbanning of banned organizations, and "the creation of a climate for democratic political activity."

CAPE TIMES on Violence

In an editorial on page 10, the paper says that violence, "in spite of blandly misleading news coverage in the broadcast media and elsewhere," is becoming "more virulent by the day." Black-on-black violence accounts for one-third of black unrest-related deaths while "the newest scourge to appear — white vigilantism — is perhaps the most dangerous potentially and could in time tear this country apart." There are, however, alternatives to violence. The ANC and other banned organizations should be unbanned and then drawn into the political process. This, however, cannot be done while the "Afrikaner Nationalist establishment" retains its belief "that it is possible to pacify the country by force, bludgeoning dissidents into submission." South Africans seem all too quick to forget the lessons of Rhodesia, where "impressive 'kill rates' and repeated military successes by fair means or foul ultimately availed nothing." This "misplaced faith in the efficacy of violence" can also be found in the "African nationalist camp," and neither side seems willing to "profit by the lessons of history. Unless these dispositions change, the bloodletting will continue with no prospect of relief in sight."

CAPE TIMES on Race Classification

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says that the fact that over 1,000 people were reclassified from one race group to another demonstrates that "racial discrimination is alive and well. There would be no need for people to change their racial status if all races enjoyed similar treatment and equal political, economic, and social benefits." The fact that most people moved up the scale by being reclassified to a more priviliged group "strongly suggested an eagerness to escape the penalties inherent in the apartheid system."

RSC's Criticized

In the "Civic Diary" column on page 11, Hilary Venables writes that "the harder the government tries to disguise its elaborate new plan for local government as a triumph for democracy, the clearer it becomes that the whole charade is nothing more than an attempt to placate its opposition while maintaining domination over a powerless majority." Although the government has issued a pamphlet saying that the new regional service councils [RSC's] will broaden democracy, eliminate the domination of one group over another, and provide efficient local government and

promote development, a report from the University of Cape Town's Urban Problems Research Unit has found that the central government will maintain tight control over local authorities and the distribution of votes and the regional method of financing "will aggravate rather than eliminate inequalities between white and black." In place of the RSC's the report recommends a system of local government in which each person over 18 gets a single and equal vote, and which provides for devices to "encourage participation by all citizens and enable 'disadvantaged groups' to have an equal say in decision-making."

Banning Orders To Be Challenged

In a report on page 2 of Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 25 March, the paper says that Priscilla Jana, attorney for Mordekai Mothibe Tatse, has confirmed that her client intends to challenge his banning order. "However, all of the people who are known to be banned are expected to challenge their orders" after the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court found the banning order of Mkhuseli Jack invalid.

Unemployed Group Condemns Use of Funds

"The Unemployed Workers Movement said in a statement yesterday that it was 'disgusted' at reports that the government had decided to use R6-million from its emergency feeding scheme, which was returned to the Treasury for other purposes," the *CAPE TIMES* reports on page 10. A spokesman for the movement said " 'it is the three-and-a-half million unemployed and their families who are in real need of this feeding scheme because of inadequate unemployment benefits.' "

CAPE TIMES on Jack Unbanning

"The Minister of Law and Order should welcome the court decision invalidating his banning of an Eastern Cape community leader, Mr Mkhuseli Jack, not reimpose the ban," the paper says in an editorial on page 12. "Any action to impose new banning orders would do further damage to race relations in the Eastern Cape. It would prompt more calls for sanctions and disinvestment. The best thing to do in this case is nothing."

CAPE TIMES on Heunis

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper discusses an earlier editorial criticizing Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis' absence from a debate in the House of Representatives. However, the paper has since learned that Heunis did attend the beginning of the debate and says "we greatly regret the error and we apologise to Mr Heunis." Nevertheless, Labor Party leader Allan Hendrickse was so angered by Heunis' early departure from the House that he closed the debate early. "Although a break-down in liaison over the Minister's intended presence" may be at fault, "if Mr Heunis can antagonize political 'friends' in this way, what hope does he have of reconciling more hostile forces?"

Call for Less Regulation

"The apartheid system has made all South Africans too ready to accept controls, the chairman of the Standard Bank Investment Corporation (Stanbic), Mr P.P. de Villiers, said in the annual report," Audrey D'Angelo reports on page 25. " 'To revert to a system of increased governmental intervention would in my view represent a step backwards on the path used towards more efficient use of resources. Moves toward an open society cannot easily take place within a framework of close regulation,' " De Villiers added.

Opening of CBD's

In another article on the same page, D'Angelo reports that "black, coloured, and Asian businessmen will soon start to fill up the shops and offices standing vacant in central business districts (CBD's) in the opinion of Anglo American Property Services." In its March property review, the company says that the opening of the CBD's will have a major impact on the property market and "must also 'pave the way to the total abandonment of the Group Areas Act.' "

Fazzie Reported Unbanned

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 26 March reports on its front page that the banning order of Eastern Cape community activist Henry Fazzie was set aside at the same time as the orders of Trevor Manuel, Johnny Issel, and Rowley Arenstein. "When the application for Fazzie was brought before Mr Justice F. Kroon yesterday, H.J. Liebenberg, for the minister, told the court he had been instructed that the minister, in view of a recent decision of the Appeal Court, was prepared to concede that Fazzie could take his banning as having been set aside."

Government To Profit From Wheat Imports

"Government is likely to make a profit of about R25m on the importation of 300,000 tons of wheat this year," Gerald Reilly reports on page 5. "And the profit could be used to minimise the October bread price increase, Pretoria sources say."

Employers Seek To End Removal

"Employers are to ask government to end the removal of blacks from Old Brits to the new township of Lethlabile, near Bophuthatswana," Thelma Tuch reports on the same page. Representatives of the Federated Chambers of Industries, the Steel and Engineering Federation, the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, the Metal and Allied Workers Union, and the Brits Action Committee attended a meeting in Brits which discussed the removals as well as "police harassment, banning of meetings, and the need to upgrade the township."

Heunis Confirms Munsieville To Stay

On the same page, Chris Cairncross says that Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis has said that "the township of Munsieville, which residents of nearby Krugersdorp have demanded should be removed, is there to stay."

Government To Tighten Control Over Diamonds

In another article on the same page, Cairncross notes that the government intends to tighten controls over the diamond industry, placing it totally under the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs. The diamond industry is currently divided among three departments.

BUSINESS DAY on Gold

In an editorial on page 8, the paper notes that the U.S.-Libyan conflict might temporarily boost the price of gold as would the possibility of a revival of inflationary fears. However, "only if the Mediterranean incident leads to wider disturbances and inflationary possibilies become probabilities will a gold price rise be substantive."

BUSINESS DAY on Rand

In a second editorial on the same page, the paper says that "yesterday's sharp drop in the value of the rand is probably a signal that the foreign exchange market is not convinced by Finance Minister Barend du Plessis' sweet words of comfort about the present outcome of the foreign debt negotiations." Although the minister's statement was probably factual, "after many years of Treasury assurances that have come to nothing, it is not surprising that the government's credibility stands at a deep discount." Crucial to the value of the rand is government spending; if it exceeds the 14 percent projected, as widely expected, it will cut into the payments surplus and lower the currency. "Credibility in currency markets is hard won and easily eroded," the paper concludes.

White Rightwing

On page 6 of *BUSINESS DAY*, Stanley Uys reports from London that "a new spectre is haunting SA — the spectre of the white right-wing. Its spokesmen claim it is growing at a rate of 7 percent a year, as voters turn away from President Botha's reform programme." Reviewing recent right-wing successes, Uys says until last year analysts would have said there was a built-in ceiling on the rightwing's growth potential, but two new factors are causing a reevaluation: "white fears that the black unrest will spread into white residential areas; and a decline in white living standards, caused not only by the economic recession but also by the transference of state spending from whites to blacks under the reform program." According to Reformed National Party Leader Louis Stofberg, " 'The spearhead of Afrikaner nationalism today is no longer the platteland, but the indistrial workers in the cities,' " and he predicted that " 'we can destroy the NP [National Party] politically. It is only a question of time.' " A Cape Town professor predicts that if the rightwing can win enough by-elections to attract financial support, it might win one-third of the seats in the next national election, and he expects the reasons will be socioeconomic as the government cuts back on the massive subsidies the whites have enjoyed. A professor at Stellenbosch University pointed out that the Afrikaners had been the underdogs before the 1960s, then had moved into typically middle class lifestyles and could not accept the possiblility of a drop in living standards; these people were the core of the rightwing support.

Current Account Surplus

The *RESERVE BANK QUARTERLY BULLETIN* reports that "the surplus on the current account of the balance of payments for 1985 was R7.1bn, 6 percent of the Gross Domestic Product," the paper reports on page 9. The sharp rise in exports to R35,478 billion is largely attributable to a weak exchange rate. "The capital account of the balance of payments is less satisfying." There was a net capital outflow of R10.4 billion, although the tempo of the short-term capital leaving the country declined after the introduction of the financial rand last September. The influx of long-term capital from abroad, particularly from loans, dried up after the debt freeze.

Wits Bans Guards

The University of Witwatersrand yesterday ordered off campus private security guards hired to protect members of the Student Moderate Alliance (SMA) at the University, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 26 March reports on page 8. The university registrar said that private security guards were not permitted on campus. The SMA issued a statement condemning " 'the restrictions that the university has placed on academic freedom and freedom of speech.' "

Five Die in Phalaborwa

The Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO] announced on 25 March that "five people were shot dead and an undisclosed number" detained, including AZAPO officials, at Phalaborwa over the weekend, Johannebsurg *SOWETAN* in English on 26 March reports on page 1. A police spokesman in Pretoria, however, denied in a telex to the paper that the shooting had occurred or that people had been detained. A policeman in Lebowa said he was still attempting to determined what had happened.

Black Education

"Students did not want an education equal to that of whites but were fighting for a new education system that was free, equal, democratic and dynamic," according to a member of the United Democratic Front subcommittee on education, the paper reports on page 2. "He said students saw the education system as preparing them for subservience and dividing them into classes and ethnic groups. It gave students no vision of a better society." The type of "dynamic" education sought was a " 'people's education' that was fair and just and that met the needs of every individual." " 'White' education did not meet those needs."

Reprieve for Squatters

On page 3, the paper reports that "the West Rand Board has decided not to move the squatters who live on the Vlafontein Farm in Lenasia." An official said the squatters could remain where they were until they find alternative accommodation. Aid was offered for those wanting to return to their homelands.

SOWETAN on Children Arrested

In an editorial on page 4, the paper discusses Law and Order Minister le Grange's rejection of a petition by 14 women's organisations on the treatment of children by the police. "We were impressed by these women's stance which showed that they are at last joining the campaign to take township violence and its causes to the highest level. These perceptions are serious. Only when the government appoints a commission to study the allegations will most people feel happy. As things stand, the minister's denial will not allay suspicions and fears."

Suzman on Children

In an article on page 5, the paper reports Progressive Federal Party spokesman Helen Suzman's reply to Le Grange's rejection of the petition on police treatment of children. She said that "the only way Mr le Grange would establish the facts was to appoint a judicial commission specifically to investigate whether the police were torturing detainees." Le Grange rejected the charges as "unsubstantiated" and unfair to the SAP. Suzman said, however, "the whole issue needed the closest and most objective investigation."

Atteridgeville Mayor's Statement

On page 16, the paper reports a statement by Matthew Mahlangu, mayer of Atteridgeville, condemning " 'in the strongest possible terms' " "the stopping of the local traders' vehicles by the security forces from transporting food supplies into the

township." He said the blockade would only cause " 'more hardships for our residents, especially in the light of the current consumer boycott. This may lead to a heightening of tension in the town and could possibly lead to rioting.' " He said the council does not believe such action would stop the boycott. In another story on page 17, the paper reports the mayor as appealing to local youth to stop hijacking the town council's vehicles, following the death of an 8-year-old when a group of youths tried to take over a council vehicle.

Mkhuseli Jack Profiled

In a profile of Mkhuseli Jack on page 19, the paper quotes Jack as saying that blacks need whites on their side. Jack said the success of the consumer boycott proved that the consumer boycott committee had been successful in "convincing whites that they should join the struggle for freedom." " 'All of us won't be free while this government is in power and unwilling to change. We must force it to change so that we can have a nonracial and democratic country. For that we need whites on our side. The consumer boycott has convinced some whites that they must join the struggle for freedom.' " He said he knew he ran the risk of " 'elimination by faceless cowards.' " He keeps moving around to avoid this.

Reworded Banning Notices Likely

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English on 26 March carries a report on page 1 by political correspondent David Braun that reworded banning notices are likely to be served on most of those whose restriction orders have been invalidated by recent court decisions. Those whose orders were due to have expired within the next few months may not be banned again. This "deduction" is based on the acknowledgement by the minister of law and order that orders he had served on several people were " 'of no force or effect.' " Neither the minister nor his office would comment "other than to say the matter was being considered." The government is likely to amend the legislation providing for bannings, the article says, and the law and order minister is expected to review each case to determine whether to issue new orders.

Johannesburg Perpetuating Apartheid

Johannesburg City Councillor Pieter Shoeman has accused the city council of perpetuating apartheid in the city, a page 3 article reports. He was debating the merits of the Fordsburg Redevelopment Plan for Indians, which he said was an implementation of the Group Areas Act. He criticized the council for "creating artificially high prices by inviting 28,000 Indians into the highly desirable piece of land near the city." He said the city would be a better place if town planning could be based purely on town planning rules and not on color.

Increased Debts, Civil Judgments

Another page 3 article says South Africans got deeper into debt in 1985 and civil judgments granted against business and individuals totalled more than R1.251 million. Quoting figures released by the Central Statistical Services, the article says the figures show a jump of 17.7 percent in the number of civil summonses issued for debt last year and a 15.7 percent increase in the number of judgments compared with 1984. Debts relating to the judgments rocketed by 89.1 percent. Judgments granted against business enterprises totalled R676 million and those against individuals R574 million.

Statistics on Business Districts

A total of 63 local authorities had submitted proposals to the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning to open central business districts to all race groups, Minister Chris Heunis told Parliament, a page 4 article says. Of these, 41 had been accepted, 10 were still being considered, and 12 proposals "could not be considered and were being held over."

Repatriation of Workers

Another page 4 article quotes Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Heunis as telling the House of Assembly that last year 24,514 foreign black workers were repatriated. The breakdown was: Mozambique 20,522; Zimbabwe 2,939; Lesotho 460; Swaziland 398; and Botswana 195.

Colored Affairs Budget Criticized

Another report from Parliament on the same page quotes Silvertown Labor Party MP Frederick Peters as saying it is "unacceptable" that the colored own affairs budget had only increased by R343 million while the white budget had risen by R2 billion. " 'Our budget is peanuts, pocket money. We receive R1.7 billion, they receive R4.5 billion.' " Opposition leader Dennis de la Cruz said the difference was even more unfavorable when one considered the coloreds' backlog in housing, education and social services. Only R869.5 million had been allocated for colored education compared to the R3.069 million for whites. "It was these inequalities in education which triggered the present crisis in the country," he said.

Softer Line on ANC

Political correspondent David Braun reports on page 7 that the government "appears to be taking a softer line towards South Africans who insist on holding talks with the African National Congress." Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha has declined to comment on the resolutions taken on two English university campuses the past week, and by his reaction it would seem he is "taking a more moderate line." It is understood that many ministers feel it is counterproductive to stop people going to Lusaka, Braun writes. They believe the publicity is not worth the effort and, in any case, people who have defied the government's wishes have their "eyes opened by what they have seen and heard."

Editorial on Bread Prices

The government's decision not to increase the price of bread bears all the hallmarks of a last-minute deviation from original planning, a page 8 editorial says. With R70 million cut from the budget's bread subsidy, the price could only be kept down by robbing Peter to pay Paul — in this case the Wheat Board. Consumers will go along with this, the editorial says. Better to keep the price down now and let the future look after itself. "But there will unavoidably be a price to pay — and probably within six months."

STAR on Convention

The text of another editorial reads: "In microcosm, this was the story of our lives. Originally the seminar on 'South Africa in crisis' at Wilton Park in Britain was billed as a trial national convention. The entire political spectrum would be there. Then ... Pretoria refused the AZAPO man a passport; the NP [National Party] said it wasn't policy to be at meetings attended

by the ANC; the ANC pulled out anyway, and other black delegates withdrew because of the absence of the ANC and the presence of Inkatha. The rest milled about angrily blaming the media. It was very good training for a real national convention."

New Black Township

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 26 March carries a report on page 4 which states that investigations are under way on the possible use of an area west of Verwoerdburg for a new black town, but that nothing has yet been decided. This was said by an official of the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, in reaction to rumors that a "large new black town" was to be established on the western border of Verwoerdburg. "The spokesman said it is the duty of the department to continuously examine the possible use of land for among other things residential or urban development for all population groups."

Pretoria Boycott

On the same page, reporter Jan Taljaard reports that despite the total consumer boycott called for the black townships north of Pretoria, consumers are nevertheless buying in increasing numbers from white shops. "Large retail groups have noted a sharp drop in sales from Monday. But sales by small establishments in the area were almost normal yesterday." Taxi operators were apparently also wary about taking people to white areas for their purchases.

Meeting on Reconciliation

On page 5 the paper reports that a meeting has been arranged by the moderature of the Dutch Reformed Church of northern Transvaal in an attempt to support an interchurch dialogue on Christian reconciliation, justice, and peace. The gathering will take place under the chairmanship of Prof Johan Heyns, and it is planned for 20 April. It will take place at the Pretoria show ground, and all Christians, churches, and interested groups are invited to attend, in the light of the unrest and violence recently in Pretoria and surrounding areas.

BEELD on Wits Incidents

In an editorial on page 12, the paper says it was bad enough that a group of unruly students at Witwatersrand University were last week allowed to disrupt an address by UNITA speakers, but now the institution's administration has prevented an attempt by moderate students to give the UNITA representatives a second chance to address students on Russian colonialism in Angola. The paper asks: "Can moderates at the university be blamed if they feel the university has shown by this that it no longer has any control over radical elements on the campus? That it succumbs in the face of leftist radical intimidation by elements who refuse to allow any opposition to their dangerous ideologies?" A university should be careful to educate students to become balanced adults, trained to listen to all facts of an issue before forming their opinions. Wits is shirking its duty, the paper concludes.

Krugersdorp Removal

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans of 25 March says on page 6 that an attempt by Conservative Party members of the Krugersdorp Town Council to force a debate on the removal of the black residential area of Munsieville failed narrowly yesterday. Reporter David Malan writes that deputy chairman of the management committee, Clergyman Arrie van Wyk, asked that the order of business of the council agenda be changed so that he could propose a petition be circulated to all adult residents of Krugersdorp protesting against the announcement by the state president that Munsieville would no longer be moved. However, the town pointed out that the agenda could not be changed without a majority consent. Clergyman Van Wyk said he would present his proposals as a motion at the next council meeting.

VADERLAND on Wits Incidents

In an editorial on page 10 the same paper says three UNITA speakers were prevented by unruly students at Witwatersrand University from speaking, and the university authorities, instead of taking action against these students, asked the speakers to leave the campus. "Wits should not blame the public if they get the impression that the university only concerns itself with freedom of speech when the speakers say what its radical students approve of."

Plight of Colored Farmers

In an article on page 23, Gerhard Burgers reports on the plight of South Africa's colored farmers. He reports that there are about 2,000 of them and their case was put before the House of Representatives by Mr James Swigelaar when he called for the removal of all restrictive measures in agriculture. These farmers are not allowed to purchase land for farming; they have to apply for permits to allow them to hire land, and such a permit is not issued if a neighboring farmer objects. The Erika Theron commission had recommended that the permit system be abolished and colored farmers allowed to purchase and farm on land anywhere in the republic, but the restriction still remains on the books. "White immigrants can establish themselves on any area and purchase a farm. But we who are born in South Africa are denied the right to farm where we wish. Our people long to practice agriculture," Mr Swigelaar said. The Agriculture Credit Act makes provision for white farmers to obtain loans at low interest rates, he says, but this is not applicable to colored farmers. Colored farmers are at present found only in 23 registered areas, 21 of which are in the southern Cape and 2 in the Orange Free State. A group of them recently suffered great losses from the locust plague, but they received no compensation, Mr Swigelaar said.

Towns Study Security

On page 1, the Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 25 March reports that a committee of 10 members has been established by residents of Groblersdal and Marble Hall to look into the security situation of the two towns. About 800 residents attended the meeting last night. The decision to form the committee was taken in the light of increasing unrest in the area. The situation has worsened to such an extent that school children are now driven to school in buses with armed guards.

TRANSVALER on English Universities

In an editorial on page 22 concerning events at Witwatersrand University, the paper asks whether a rogue element has now taken over at the English-speaking universitites. "It certainly seems so. Because the manner in which three UNITA representatives were treated last week at Wits does not comply with the norms of civilized people. Not to mention the countless incidents

of radicalism and militancy displayed at this university." The weekend arson attack at Natal University, says the paper, was another indication of the same problem. The English universities will have to do something about these "academic ruffians. Or do they prefer to cuddle these vipers to their breasts?"

'Heated' House of Delegates Debate

Political reporter Ebrahim Moosa reports on page 6 of Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 26 March that "Indian MP's hurled allegations at each other yesterday in one of the most heated debates this session. The chairman of the Ministers Council and cabinet minister without portfolio, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, alleged that there were serious allegations of 'fraud and corruption' in the Springfield seat of Mr Mahmoud Rajab of the Solidarity Party." The allegations arise from a dispute over "some 400 to 500 special votes which were filled in by 'fictitious' persons, Mr Rajbansi said. In an across-the-floor report, Mr Rajab challeged the minister to appoint a parliamentary select committee to investigate the alleged electoral irregularities in his constituency."

Black Housing Shortage

Barry Streek reports on the same page that "despite an official estimate of a shortage of 64,513 houses for black people in the urban areas of South Africa, the 13 development boards constructed only 5,496 houses last year — and more than half were built in the Western Cape." Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis told Parliament that 3,001 houses were built by the Western Cape Development Board, while no houses had been built by the Northern Transvaal, Northern Cape, Southern Free State, Natalia, and Central Transvaal Development Boards. In response to a question from Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Colin Eglin, Heunis said there was an estimated shortage of 7,500 houses for black families in the Cape peninsula.

'Racial Blackmail' on Private Schools

In another article on the same page, the paper reports that "a row is brewing over subsidies for private schools in the wake of revelations that these will be linked to the racial composition of each school." PFP MP Roger Burrows told the House of Assembly that in order for schools to get a 45 percent subsidy they would have to be 90 percent white. "Describing the situation as 'racial blackmail,' Mr Burrows said that the South African Catholic Bishops Conference had already indicated that they were not prepared to accept any racial quota system."

Heunis Ignores Colleagues

Another article on the same page reports that Labor Party MP Peter Jacobs told the House of Representatives that "the Minister of Constitutional Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, held meetings throughout the country with black leaders but was not prepared to talk to his own parliamentary colleagues." Another Labor Party MP said "the government was allowing the country 'to go up in flames' for the sake of a handful of right- and left-wing radicals."

CAPE TIMES on Police Reform

Commenting on the deaths of two policemen in the Cape peninsula in an editorial on page 14, the paper says they are "yet another reminder that violence is far from abating in the country." The fact that one of the policeman was shot "is a relatively new — and ominous — phemonenon. It appears to signal an escalation in urban guerrilla tacts, whether under the direction of the ANC or freelance operators. The next phase, presumably, will be running battles between insurgents and security forces with automatic weapons blazing away on both sides." Since the job of the police and the SADF "is becoming more dangerous by the day," "it is a matter of great concern that the attitude of township-dwellers towards the South African police should be positive rather than negative, as it appears to be at present. The need is for police reform — with much greater sophistication in training and methods and sensitivity in handling inter-racial conflict."

CAPE TIMES on Bread Price

"The postponement of the bread price increase, possibly until October, is good news for consumers, particularly for those hard-pressed families for whom an increase would have meant additional privation," the paper says in another editorial on the same page. "The bread price is a political issue with widespread implications. There is enough violence and unrest, much of it exacerbated by poverty and unemployment, and government actions must bear this in mind. Decisions on subsidies, and even a welcome adherence to free-market principles in the long-term, must be weighed against the short-term promotion of peace and stability."

Credibility 'On Line' Over Nkomati

In the "Politics Midweek" column on page 14 of the *CAPE TIMES*, Michael Acott discusses the 2d anniversary of the Nkomati accord, noting that it "was not a happy occasion for either South Africa or Mozambique." The situation in Mozambique has deteriorated, and although South Africa denies violating the accord, it is "being blamed in Mozambique and the rest of the world. Whatever the truth of the allegations, South Africa has a vested interest in stopping Renamo's depredations, in promoting Mozambique's economic development and in keeping the Marxist President Machel in power." South Africa's "credibility in Africa is on the line" and if it wishes "to be believed by other African states with whom it wishes to do business, and particularly those with whom it wishes to negotiate non-agression pacts, it must deliver on the Nkomati accord, and be seen to be doing so."

Agricultural Land Prices Fall

"The price of agricultural land in some debt-ridden areas has dropped so sharply over the past year that farmers wishing to sell farms have withdrawn them from the market," Linda Ensor reports on page 28. "Several sources claim prices have crashed to an all-time low in distressed areas — by as much as one third in some cases," and the chief economist for the South African Agricultural Union "believes they have declined 'drastically' over the past year."

Exports Increase

"SA trade exports increased by R1.3 bn to R6.5bn in the first two months of the year compared with January-February last year," Gerald Reilly reports on the front page of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 27 March. "Imports also increased in the two months — by R994.5m to R4.9bn — leaving a favourable trade balance of R1,667.3bn."

Greater School Unrest Possible

"Black educational unrest of greater magnitude than last year could erupt due to the increasing dissatisfaction of pupils with the government's response to their demands, says the National Educational Crisis Committee (NECC)," Thelma Tuch reports on page 3. NECC Publicity Secretary Molefe Tsele told a press conference that while some of the demands, such as the lifting of the state of emergency and the provision of free books and stationery, had been met, troops were still in the townships, detained teachers had not been released, and the Congress of South African Students was still banned. Molefe said that "pupil dissatisfaction had resurfaced because of the delay in meeting demands," and noted that "the crisis had spread to the rural areas where it had become particularly extreme."

Pretoria Boycott Starts 'To Bite'

"Pretoria's consumer boycott has started to bite," Reilly says in another page 3 report. An OK Bazaars manager said " 'the situation is not happy. A lot of black business is being lost.' " A member of the boycott committee and the United Democratic Front said the boycott was "orderly and without intimidation."

Decline of Rand Viewed

"The state of near-panic which, in the short space of seven trading days, effectively devalued the rand by 8.7 percent at its lowpoint yesterday is a reflection of the brittleness of the present state of business confidence," Harold Fridjhon writes on page 3 of *BUSINESS DAY*. The rand lost value because dealers sought to buy dollars in "panic short-buying and forward-covering precipitated by fears of the rand collapsing again." The panic was "based on the assumption that the repayments of foreign debts and interest would drain the reserves of foreign assets which could not be replaced by new borrowing or even rollovers of existing facilities," but "a little-mentioned further reason why the ultra-cautious have been taking precautionary forward cover on their dollar commitments is that some people are apprehensive that township unrest might flare up again at the end of the month. This is because of government's lack of response to the educational and other demands made at a conference organised last December by the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee, virtually giving an ultimatum to the government."

Unemployment, Job Training Discussed

"The many blacks streaming across South Africa's borders in search of work was aggravating the country's already massive unemployment problem, Manpower Director-General Piet van der Merwe told *BUSINESS DAY* yesterday," Gerald Reilly reports on page 4. Van der Merwe said that 264,000 unemployed were trained in the government training programs from late last year until the end of March and the government is spending 60 million rands on the job training program, while another 75 million rands has been allocated for training unemployed workers in basic skills in the new financial year.

Wilton Park Conference

In a report from London on page 4, the paper says that those who attended the Wilton Park conference on South Africa's future in Great Britain, including Fredrik van Zyl Slabbert, University of Witwatersrand Professor Tom Lodge, and Inkatha Secretary General Oscar Dhlomo, discussed "the future of SA ethnic minorities, the regional situation, violence and cleavages within black and white groups" in informal discussions. The black boycott of the conference was also discussed "to see whether this means that future high-level discussions between whites and blacks on SA's future must now be ruled out."

End of Job Reservation Welcomed

"News that agreement is imminent between the Chamber of Mines and white trade unions on the scrapping of job reservation in the mining industry is most welcome," the paper says in an editorial on page 6. "In a society such as ours there is no need for any person — particularly white — to have statutory job protection. The principle underpinning such an approach is fundamentally unsound." Since the mining industry has recently been "a flashpoint for labor unrest," "any move to defuse tensions is to be welcomed. It is now up to the white mining unions to accept the inevitability of progress and reform, and the black unions to put the past behind them."

'New Liberal Constituency' Emerging

In a column on the same page, Ken Owen discusses the emergence of "a new liberal constituency." "The move to reconstruct South African liberalism began at a reunion of black and white Liberal Party members in Grahamstown last June at which four basic principles were tentatively put forward: opposition to government policy, defence against violence and against the violent over-throw of the state, the reconnaissance of new policies, and an exploration of the possibilities of co-operation with government reform initiatives." The movement gained impetus with a series of lectures by University of Cape Town economist Charles Simkins, who believes it is possible for the country " 'to join the league of advanced industrial countries in a generation' " provided its " 'achieved economic capacity and its growth potential are not badly damaged.' " Owen adds that Black Sash member Jill Wentzel told a seminar on liberalism "that liberals had been 'sliding' away from their principles in response to attacks by the hard Left." She "brought into the open for the first ime a simmering conflict between old-line liberals and younger hard-line radicals within the Black Sash, accusing Sash members of watering down principles, losing objectivity and condoning violence by the Left." The Grahamstown group will meet again, probably next month in Natal, "to decide whether an attempt to reconstruct liberal values is still worth the effort, or whether the descent into chaos has already gone too far."

Delayed Reforms Heighten Mine Conflict

"The mining industry provides a case study on the way conflict can be generated by delayed or piecemeal reform, according to an authoritative doctoral thesis by Kent McNamara," Claire Pickard-Cambridge writes on page 7. According to McNamara, whose thesis deals with conflicts in the mines from 1972 until unionization in 1982, the "heightened management-worker conflict was partly the result of labour reforms being delayed for over 100 years."

Treurnicht on Power Sharing

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 27 March reports on page 4 that Conservative Party leader Andries Treurnicht asked in the House of Assembly " 'how on earth' the National Party (NP) Government believed it could, with its power sharing policy, create a united society in South Africa out of all the divided communities, as this was impractical." Treurnicht added

that "in the government's power sharing policy, there would not be real self-determination for the different communities in the country, particularly not for the whites."

Assistance to Farmers

"The agricultural allocation in the white administration's budget was 'pathetically inadequate,' Mr Ralph Hardingham (NRP [New Republic Party] Mooi River) said yesterday," the paper reports on the same page. Hardingham added that "the R11 billion owed by farmers was 'mind-boggling' and in many areas the forced sale of farms was imminent." Another article on the same page reports that Sarel Hayward, minister of agriculture and water supply in the House of Assembly, told Parliament that "special financial assistance was to be given to farmers in the North-Western and Northern Transvaal to alleviate the 'very serious conditions' prevailing there." "Mr Hayward said it had been decided to pay a subsidy on arrear interest in respect of land and agricultural bank loans to farmers in the designated areas."

CITIZEN on Relations With Lesotho

In an editorial entitled "Good Neighbours" on page 6, the paper discusses Lesotho's General Lekhanya's recent visit to South Africa, which demonstrated that "the two lands are moving significantly towards a better relationship." The joint statement issued after Lekhanya's talks with State President P.W. Botha underlines that "good neighbourliness is the key to the future."

Randburg Cinemas Opened

"All the cinemas in Randburg's central business district have been opened to all races, following recommendations to the government by the town council," Thomson reports on page 12.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB241248 Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL in English 21-27 Mar 86 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpts] **Alexandra Toll:**

A total of 17 people have been killed and 115 injured as a result of police action in Alexandra township since February 15 this year, the minister of law and order, Louis le Grange, said. He did not believe it was in the public interest to divulge details of unrest victims' names and ages.

The Defence Budget:

Finance Minister Barend du Plessis has allocated R5,123.3-million to defence for 1986/87. Last year the amount was R4,274.1 indicating a 19.9 percent increase.

This is 4.43 times the amount of the black education budget (R1,157.8-million) and 8.12 times the amount allocated to housing (R650.6-million, of which R311.3-million is for black housing).

The total amount allocated to defence is 13.7 percent of the budget. ARMSCOR [Armaments Development and Production Corporation] received R249-million (in 1985 the figure was R136-million).

The 1985 budget surplus of R323-million will be transferred to the Special Defence Account.

The official defence spending total of R5,446.6-million shows an increase of 27.5 percent. This does not include:

— The police budget of R1,071.2-million (figure for 1985 was R954.7-million).
— The amount spent on defence buildings and property (which falls under the Department of Public Works vote).
— The amount spent on the SWA Territorial Force (which falls under the finance vote).
— Foreign exchange received from the overseas sale of arms which is then channeled into defence spending.
— Defence and police expenditure in the homelands and independent states.
— The amount already in the Special Defence Account.

The budget only represents an estimate of expenditure. Defence expenditure invariably exceeds the defence budget allocation and is supplemented generously by the "mini-budget" late in the financial year.

A recent United Nations report stated that real defence expenditure in South Africa is about 30 to 35 percent more than the official budget. This would bring real total expenditure on Security Forces to about R8,700-million.

Emigration/Immigration (Dept of Statistics):

According to figures released by Central Statistics Services in Pretoria, fewer immigrants are settling in SA, while the number of emigrants is increasing.

Figures for Jan 1985 to Dec 1985 compared with the same period in 1984 show that the number of emigrants increased form 8,550 to 11,401 (33.3 percent).

The number of immigrants decreased from 28,793 to 17,284 (a drop of 40 percent).

Prisoner of Conscience: Khethiwe Mboweni

Khethiwe Mboweni, 28, a field worker for the Environmental and Development Agency [EDA] and a former SRC [Student Representative Council] member at Turfloop University, was detained under Section 28 of the Internal Security Act (the "preventive detention" clause) on October 18 last year. Her detention order expires on June 30 this year.

At present she is in the psychiatric ward of the Johannesburg Hospital after being in solitary confinement for most of her detention.

Mboweni is the mother of two children aged five and ten years, who are currently in Tzaneen. She served in the regional office of AZAPO [Azanian People's Organization]. She had just begun work at EDA when she was detained. This is Mboweni's first period in detention.